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ROTHWELL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

W. H. MERRIOTT, &c

HISTORY
OF
ROTHWELL,

In the County of Northampton.

WITH AN
ACCOUNT OF THE BONE CAVERNS.

BY
PAUL CYpher.

Engravings of Brasses and Woodcuts.

NORTHAMPTON :
TAYLOR & SON, PRINTERS & PUBLISHERS.

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REMARKS ON A
Collection of Skulls
FROM
ROTHWELL.

By GEORGE BUSK, Esq., F.R.S.

Read before the Ethnological Society, December 13, 1870.

THE skulls which form the subject of the following observations were selected by Mr. Grove from an enormous collection contained in a subterranean vaulted chamber in the parish of Rothwell. Of the history of this collection, or the sources whence the skulls were derived, Mr. Grove was unable to obtain any authentic particulars; and it is not improbable that it merely represents the gradual accumulation, through a long series of years, of skulls and bones removed from the adjacent churchyard. The remains, therefore, might be taken as fair representatives of the population of the surrounding district for a very considerable period, and, as such, of much value in an ethnological point of view.

As the specimens selected by Mr. Grove were for the most part chosen as presenting what appeared to him some striking peculiarity—they cannot be regarded as affording any very correct idea of the general character of the collection, and it would be very desirable, in the interests of ethnological science, that a full examination and numerous measurements should be made of as many of the skulls as possible, for by this means alone could it be determined whether the certainly somewhat peculiar characters seen in the skulls exhibited by Mr. Grove, are or are not present in a majority of the remainder.

The skulls submitted to me for examination consist of eight in tolerable preservation so far as the *calvaria* itself is concerned, but, excepting in one instance, the facial bones are all wanting, nor is there a single lower jaw among them. Besides these are fragments of four other skulls, consisting for the most part of portions of the frontal bone.

1. The bones, with one exception, present the usual aspect of those which have lain long in a vault, none appearing to

have been long in the open ground. They exhibit no marks of injury inflicted during life.

2. From their size and comparative thinness and delicacy, I should conclude that some of the skulls are those of females.

3. As regards form, the most striking peculiarity of all or nearly all of these skulls is the extreme lowness of the forehead. It would not of course be difficult, in any large collection of modern English skulls, to find many equally marked by this peculiarity, but I am not acquainted with an instance where so many skulls from one locality are so strikingly marked in this respect. And it should be noticed that the frontal depression is as strongly evinced in the brachycephalic as in those of a more elongated form. It is also to be noted that the frontal sinuses in most of the skulls are of extraordinary dimensions.

4. With respect to the dimensions afforded by these bones I have thought it more convenient to throw them into a tabular form from which the following particulars, amongst others, may be culled:—

(1.) That the proportionate mean dimensions of the entire *calvaria*, taken in the way I have before suggested,—viz: by the addition together of the figures denoting the *length*, *breadth*, and *height*—are represented for purposes of comparison by the numbers in inches as under: (1) Rothwell skulls mean, 18·0; (2) modern English (mixed) mean, 18·58; (3) priscan and ancient (mixed) mean, 18·55; (4) priscan (Scandinavian) mean, 18·88.

These numbers are of course merely relative, but they will serve to show that, as contrasted with the ordinary recent English type, the skulls are rather small, and also as compared with a good many of the pre-historic or priscan and ancient skulls met with in this country, and still more so as compared with the large skulls of the stone period found in Scandinavia. This comparative smallness, however, may perhaps be accounted for by the circumstance that the collection includes female skulls, or it may be due probably to the smaller stature of the people,—a point which can only be ascertained by a proper examination of the limb bones in the same ossuary.

(2.) The majority of the skulls are more or less brachycephalic—in fact all but one—the mean latitudinal or cephalic index being .782 and the highest .833, whilst, in accordance with the law I have before pointed out*, the latitudinal index is considerably less, viz.: .754.

(3.) In the other proportionate measurements of the skull there is nothing particular to remark.

* "On the Discovery of Platycnemic Men in Denbighshire," *Journal of Ethnological Society*, 1871, p. 467.

Table of Measurement.

| No. | | | | |
|------|-------------------------|--|--|--|
| 1 | Length. | | | |
| 2 | Breadth. | | | |
| 3 | Height. | | | |
| 4 | Least frontal diam. | | | |
| 5 | Greatest frontal diam. | | | |
| 6 | Parietal diameter. | | | |
| 7 | Occipital ditto. | | | |
| 8 | Zygomatic ditto. | | | |
| mean | Frontal radius. | | | |
| 7.11 | Vertical ditto. | | | |
| 5.5 | Parietal ditto. | | | |
| 5.3 | Occipital ditto. | | | |
| 3.7 | Maxillary ditto. | | | |
| 4.6 | Fronto-nasal ditto. | | | |
| 5.2 | Circumference. | | | |
| 4.3 | Longitudinal arc. | | | |
| 4.3 | Frontal ditto. | | | |
| 4.2 | Parietal ditto. | | | |
| 4.7 | Occipital ditto. | | | |
| 4.0 | Frontal transverse arc. | | | |
| 3.6 | Parietal ditto. | | | |
| 20.3 | Occipital ditto. | | | |
| 14.1 | Latitudinal index. | | | |
| 5.1 | Altitudinal index. | | | |
| 5.0 | | | | |
| 4.6 | | | | |
| 11.3 | | | | |
| 13.1 | | | | |
| 11.6 | | | | |
| 7.82 | | | | |
| 7.54 | | | | |

PAPERS, &c.,

ON THE BONES AT ROTHWELL.

1. The Natural History of Northamptonshire ; with some Account of the Antiquities, by John Morton, M.A. *London, 1712.*
2. A paper read at Peterborough, at the meeting of the Associated Architectural Societies, May 24th, 1855, by M. H. Bloxam, Esq. (See *Mercury*, June 16th, 1855.)
3. An article "Wanted, an Owner. Some account of certain bones found in a vault beneath Rothwell Church, Northamptonshire." (See *Fraser's Mag.*, July, 1858.)
4. A lecture delivered to the members of the Moulton Religious and Useful Knowledge Society, January 3, 1862, by Major Whyte Melville. (See *Mercury*, January 11, 1862.)
5. A paper read before the Committee for Local Antiquities, at Northampton, June 3, 1862, by Samuel Sharp, Esq. (See *Mercury*, June 7, 1862.)
6. An article on Rothwell. (See *Herald*, June 20, 1863.)
7. A letter on Rothwell Crypt and Naseby Battle, by J. L. Cherry. (See *Notes and Queries*, October 30, 1869 ; also November 20, 1869.)
8. "History of Rothwell," with an Account of the Bone Caverns ; by Paul Cypher.
9. A letter on the Rothwell Bones, by Rev. Norman Glass. (See *Herald*, July 15, 1871.)

THE

HUNDRED OF ROTHWELL OTHERWISE ROWELL,

In the reign of William the Conqueror this district was divided into two distinct hundreds, that of Stotfold on the west, and Rodewell on the east; but these two, according to a register of Knights fees, were united as early as the 24th year of the reign of Edward 1st. It is very possible the extent of the original hundred, including ten tythings only, did not attain to the limits of the present division; but this is easily accounted for, by the known fact of that extension of the liberty of the hundred, which always resulted from either the draining of a marsh, the felling of a forest, or the cultivation of waste land; and it seems very clear, that each of those laws has had its share in extending the boundaries of the present hundred. Its extent, acreage, and

population at the census of 1841, were as follow:—

| Parish | Average | Population |
|--|---------|------------|
| Rothwell cum Orton, and the hamlet of Thorpe Underwood | 4,430 | 2,939 |
| Thorpe Malsor..... | 680 | 366 |
| Loddington | 1,020 | 226 |
| Glendon Cum Barford..... | 1,490 | 53 |
| Rushton, All Saints & St. Peter | 2,960 | 497 |
| Harrington | 2,000 | 238 |
| Desborough | 2,410 | 1,388 |
| Arthingworth | 2,030 | 242 |
| Bowden parva with Oxendon parva | 2,410 | 439 |
| Oxendon magna | 1,620 | 234 |
| Braybrooke | 3,060 | 420 |
| Clipston with Newbold | 2,800 | 859 |
| Draughton | 1,360 | 208 |
| East Farndon | 1,070 | 250 |
| Haslebeach | 1,790 | 194 |
| Kelmarsh | 3,750 | 163 |
| Maidwell | 1,650 | 258 |
| Marston Trussell including Thorpe Lubbenham..... | 1,640 | 236 |
| Sibbertoft | 2,620 | 437 |
| Sulby is partly within this hundred | 700 | 70 |
| Hedingworth partly within the hundred | 2,220 | 270 |

CHAPTER 1st. ANCIENT STATE OF ROWELL.

The market town of Rothwell, or as it is popularly termed Rowell, is of very considerable

antiquity, for as early as 1154, in the reign of Henry 2nd we find an exemption from tolls, granted by Roger Earl of Clare to the Premonstratensian, monks of Sulby Abbey, on all articles they might vend or purchase at his mercate of Rowell. In the year 1204, the fifth of John, the manor was confirmed to Richard Earl of Clare, with the mercate and other privileges; on condition that the market day should be changed from Sunday to Monday; and about this time an important privilege appears to have been granted, an annual fair to commence upon Trinity eve, and continue the four following days. In the year 1216 the manor formed a portion of the princely possession of the Earl of Gloucester, and was rapidly advancing in prosperity and importance. The commerce moreover of the town must have been of some consequence, for at this period we find the townsmen petitioning Henry 3rd for exemption from all pontage, tollage, &c. in the town of Northampton, on the ground of tenancy of the honour of Gloucester. In compliance with this petition, the King directed the issue of a precept to the Mayor and Baillifs of the said town, forbidding such exaction; to which precept the officials of Northampton replied, that the town of Rothwell was not parcel of the honour of Gloucester, and that the townsmen having paid the accustomed demands time out of mind, they could not proceed to the execution of the said writ. About this period the magnificent church must have been completed, as the sepulchral brass of its earliest known Capellane, William de Rothwelle, records his death on the 4th of the nones of August 1220; and the town in all probability had gained the summit of its prosperity.

Although the records are but scanty, they are sufficient to convince us, that it was a walled town, of a mixed ecclesiastic and military character. The noble church, with the chapelry of the blessed Virgin, and the Augustine Nunnery of St. John the Baptist, founded by the Clares, evincing the value of its pries'tly rank; and the fenal fortress on the west side of the town, the fortified wall of the town, with its eastern and western bars, testifying its importance in a sec'ar light. In the year 1316 the manor of Rowell reverted to the crown, from whence it was assigned to Margaret de Audley, Sister to the late Earl, and niece to the Sovereign. In the year 1330, this Lady and her husband were required to substantiate their title to the manorial, and mercate priv'eges they exercised; which they effected, by pleading im-memorial prescription. In consequence of the failure of male issue, the manor now passed by virtue of a marriage settlement, to the family of Stafford, anno 1352. Shortly after this event the baronial family of Stafford was elevated to the dukedom of Buckingham and retained pos'ession of the manor of Rowell nealy wo centuries; but on the 17th o' May, 1521, the last Duke, of Buckingham of that race, having been attainted of high treason, and condemned to death, underwent his sentence upon Tower hill, when the hundred, and manor of Rothwell, as customary in such cases became forfeited to the Crown. One of the charges against this nobleman, was the tempting Friar Hopkins to make traitorous prophecies. Towards the close of the reign of Henry 8th, the manor was granted to Lord Par of Horton, at whose death it devolved on the family of Tresham. Since the days of the Clares, no

manorial lord had manifested so continued a desire to advance the prosperity of the inhabitants, and improve the condition of the town of Rowell, as Sir Thomas Tresham. We find him commencing the erection of a town hall, and interesting himself materially in the welfare of the school, established a short time previously by the pious Owen Biggsdale. Unfortunately these benevolent intentions were frustrated by his death in 1577. It does not appear clear whether the manor passed by a treasonable conviction, or by failure of direct issue, to the crown; but in the reign of James 1st we find it purchased from that monarch by a gentleman named Hill, in whose family it continued for some generations. When Bridges in 1791 wrote his admirable history of Northamptonshire, he described the Church Register as commencing in 1614; if this be correct, the earlier volumes must be either stolen or destroyed, for after very diligent search the earliest found by the present author is dated 1708, and on its first page is the following note by the then Vicar. "On Sunday Sept 30 1750, we were terribly alarmed with a violent shock of an earthquake. It was felt at this town about half an hour past 12 at noon. I was at that time administering the Holy Sacrament and was with the whole congregation in the greatest surprise. Its first approach was heard like a mighty wind or rather the driving of many Coaches. The motion was from S. W. to N. E. Its continuance was as near as I could judge about half a minute, and was very dreadful, and awful.

"The earth was sensibly perceived to heave under our feet. The church tottered from its foundation, and the east window shook most violently, as if all

was coming down, and from the roof which we thought was falling in, we heard dreadful crackings three or four times as if great prodigious weights were flung upon it. In fear and trembling we expected instant death, either by being crushed under the ruins of the church, or else that we should have been swallowed up alive; but as Almighty God directed, no harm happen'd unto us, They who were in the Churches, or houses were more sensibly affected, and felt it most than those who were walking. It was felt in all the neighbouring towns of Northamptonshire, and Leicestershire.

"THOS. BARNETT,

"VICAR."

Memorandum. Mrs. Judith Lant, of Thorpe Underwood who died December the 31st 1705, did give to the Vicarage of Rothwell ten pounds a year to be paid out of her personal estate to the Vicar of Rothwell so long as he shall preach there twice a Sunday which bounty was first enjoy'd by me.

JOSEPH CATTELL, M. A.

VICAR OF ROTHWELL.

Bothwell Terrier 1736.

A Vicarage house

A little yard about four yards square,

A garden measuring about 17 poles and a half

The Church-yard.

Memorandum. Samuel Tebbutt left six Bibles, &c. a year to the Parish or Poor of Rothwell.

July ye 9, 1708,

Sir John Humble Bart of Thorpe Underwood did

then give to the parish Church of Rothwell three pieces of plate namely a large cup, a cover for the same, and a plate or salver for the bread, being all double gilt with gold. Those were delivered into the hands of Joseph Cattell M. A. Vicar of Rothwell, and Thomas Letts, and Antony Timpson, Churchwardens.

Mrs. Anne Weldon of Rothwell Widdow did give to the parish Church of Rothwell aforesaid one large silver cup delivered into my hands for the use of the Holy Commumion, Jos Cattell M. A. Vicar.

On the 19th April 1715, the clerk, apparently astonished at the increasing population records the baptism of eight children, and appends this note of admiration "These 8 was all at the font together and baptised!"

In 1756. The Small-pox appears to have raged to a seriously fatal extent, as again in 1763.

May ye 27. 1731. We whose names are underwritten did go the Vicar's perambulation round the town, together with a great many boys, witness our hands:—Edward Chapman Vicar. Tho. Ponder, Tho. Yorke, Wm. Vialls, Wm. Palmer, John Vialls, Richard Johnson, Anthony Timpson Ju. Joseph Stanyonue John Robinson. Sam Tompson.

May 23, 1715. We whose names are underwritten did go the Vicar's perambulation round the Town, and the bounds of the Parish to new Bottle

bridge on Thorpe Underwood side, together with a great many boys witness our hands,

Thos Barnett Vicar.

These are all the notabilia existing in the present registers; but we learn from other sources that in 1660 the spire of the church fell down, carrying before it in its descent six bays of the church, and that in 1673 the transepts were taken down. In the churchyard may still be seen an elaborately sculptured tomb which formerly stood at the further extremity of the south aisle.

CHAPTER 2nd,

PRESENT STATE OF ROWELI, 1848.

Situated in the hundred of the same name, in the County of Northampton, and included in the Kettering Union, this parish at the census 1841, contained 2,939 inhabitants, 4,430 acres of land, upwards of 500 houses, and returned assessed property to the amount of £8,205. The poor rate may probably be correctly estimated at something more than £800 per annum. It returns two members to the Board of Guardians, and has resident medical, and relieving officers:—

A recent attempt to restore the disused market, appears to have contributed materially to the improvement of the town, and although want of unanimity has for the present obstructed to laudable an attempt, it must be obvious to all, that a better scheme for increasing the trade of the town, and advancing the prosperity of its inhabitants, could scarcely have been devised. The requirements of a numerous population such as is collected within the immediate neighbourhood, (and numbering upwards of 5000, with the inhabitants of

Loddington, Harrington, and Desborough,) can scarcely be met by distant markets, the nearest of which, Kettering, is so far removed as to render a journey thither a serious inroad on the time of the labouring classes.

The approach to Rowell from the crest of hill to the south, on which the villages of Thorpe Malsor and Loddington are situated, is very pleasing. The ancient town extends its timeworn buildings in a long unbroken line eastward, in the centre of which, the square massive tower and light clerestory of the church, the gables of Jesus' Hospital, and the fine front of the ancient manor house, are prominent and picturesque objects. The principal deficiencies of the town are its squalid entrances on the Orton, Glendon, and Rushton sides:—its disgraceful state of drainage (to which I sha'l again have to revert when treating on Sanatory matters) and the unsafe and dangerous condition of many of the foot-paths. To find fault with the style of building generally, the massive stone walls, acutely pitched and straw thatched roofs of the houses, would be merely to complain of a style of building anciently inconvenient, and unhealthy; and which prevails, more or less, throughout the whole county; and conveys to the mind of a stranger an impression of poverty, which a minute acquaintance with the inhabitants happily fails to confirm. Two brickyards in the outskirts of the town, are now in active operation, and gradually as the ill constructed dwellings of a past age yield to decay, they are replaced by structures better adapted to the personal comfort, and social condition of their inmates; a fact well understood by those who are familiar with the various evils connected with badly contrived, and crowded domiciles.

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

Upwards of six centuries have elapsed, since this once superb structure received its completion at the hands of its pious Architects. It has not indeed descended to us unscathed by time, nor unmutilated by accident. Many of the sepulchral chape's with the elaborately sculptured transepts have suffered by the former, and the total destruction of the lofty spire in 1660 from lightning is a melancholy instance of its deterioration by the latter cause.

There seems little doubt, that, originally, this edifice must have held high rank in an age, which more than any other, was characterized by the number and beauty of its sacred edifices.

Without pretending to Cathedral magnificence, the Church of Rothwell was evidently constructed on the most liberal scale; and affords an additional proof to the already convincing evidence, of the former importance of a district, in which such ample provision was made for the spiritual welfare of its inhabitants. Despite of the dilapidations of time, the ruinous effect of casualty, and worse than all, the disfiguring metamorphosis of injudicious repairs; it is still an easy task to trace the extent of the original edifice.

Entering the west door, some three centuries since probably the eye of the spectator would have embraced the whole space from the portal even to the high altar, chequered only by the varied dyes which in those days of monastic magnificence streamed through the richly painted windows, faintly reproducing their fainted legends on the cold marble of the echoing aisles. And beautiful indeed must have been the clustering pillars, with their capitals of drooping foliage, and

the lofty arches reaching into darkness, when viewed in that dim mysterious light. On the right of the altar opposite the lowly portal of the vestiary, and the Chapel of our Lady of Sorrows, may still be seen the triple piscina, and the quadruple sedile. The finely carved oaken stalls with their anti somniferous seats, minutely sculptured quatrefoils, and grotesque finials, are in all probability not far removed from their ancient situation. Above these, looking westward, was then the Tood-loft; from which, the image of Him who died to save an universe, gazed downward on the kneeling multitude with that expression of silent agony, it was the principal, and generally successful endeavour of the sculptor to pourtray. Stretching north and south were the transepts, each probably terminated by its own peculiar altar, and here, and there, at intervals along the aisles, would be the altar tombs of the Clares, the Andleys, and the Staffords, each with its recumbent effigy of the stalwart warrior at rest beneath, the gauntleted hands clasped in prayer and pointed heavenward, whilst from the lofty rereward wall would silently depend the empty suit of mail, the rusted weapon, and the tattered banner. Of the many Chapels, which from traces against the main walls appear to have been once annexed to the buildings, two only remain. That of Saunders, now used as the Vestry, and that of the Mater-doloris. Beneath the South aisle, is all that remains of the funeral crypt which possibly, may once have extended under the entire circumference of the building. Such was Rowell church:—We have now to describe it as it appears in our day. In the year 1834 or 5, the edifice had fallen into so ruinous a condition, that measures for arresting

farther decay, and indeed for the decent performance of the divine services, were imperatively required. It is much to the credit of all the parties concerned, that the good work was neither imperfectly, nor grudgingly completed. A tablet over the vestry door, which will be noticed in its proper place, records this fact, and the quantity of additional room provided for the poorer members of the Congregation.

It has been mentioned elsewhere, that the Rectorial tithes having passed into lay hands conveyed with them the obligation on the possessor, of keeping in repair the chancel. It is said to be the intention of the gentleman with whom that responsibility at present rests, speedily to restrain the rapid progress of decay which daily threatens, more and more, the destruction of this, the finest portion of the sacred pile; and it is earnestly to be hoped, that some future historian may have the pleasing task of recording the performance of so sacred a duty.

The dimensions of the Chancel, (no part of which is now used for divine service) are, length 84 feet, breadth 22 feet, and altitude probably not short of 70 feet. It is in a state of most lamentable decay, a mere receptacle of benches, ladders, brushes and a fire Engine! The damp has corroded the brasses, obscured the inscriptions, and tarnished the rich heraldic tinctures, while the funeral hatchments, mouldering in their frames, wave, their decaying tatters in the breeze which finds entrance through many a crevice in the imperfect roof.

The altar is removed, though the rails before it still remain, and under the lofty east window,

the inferior fisth of which is filled in with plaster, immediately above the base splay, within an arabesque border of black, brown, and blue, is this inscription though barely legible:

Luke 22. V. 19.

This do in
Remembrance
of me surmounted by a
Cherub rudely depicted
The funeral Hatchments suspended in the Chancel
are five in number.

1st. Within a lozenge Gu, a Chev engr Erm betw 3 Garbs Or in the centre point a canton Arg for difference, being the Escutcheon of Elizabeth widow of Dr. Hill, Rector of Thorpe Malsor, and Kellmarsh.

2nd. The arms of Hill, and on an Escutcheon of pretence the arms of Medlycote; being the hatchment of Barbara wife of Geo. Hill, Serjeant at Law.

3rd. The same with the addition of the crest- a dove rising, Arg, in the beak an olive branch ppi being the escutcheon of the above named Serjeant Hill.

4th. Sa, a stag trippant Or, on a chief indented of the second, an inescutch Arg charged with the emblem of baronetage a hand Sanguine; impaling Az, 3 Gauntlets Or, being the escutcheon of Dame Eliz^h, Humble wife to Sir W. Humble, Bart, and daughter to Gilbert Lord Barnard, of Barnard Castle, Co Durham.

5th. The same arms with the addition of the crest: a demi Stag saliant, gorged with a chaplet

of laurel ppr, being the hatchment of the said Sir R. Humble.

Monumental inscriptions in the Chancel.

Before the altar rails with folded hands in the gesture of prayer, attired in the full vestments of a Romish priest, the head resting upon a pillow supported by two Seraphs, lies the effigy in brass of William de Rothwelle, one of the earliest Capellani, Beneath in the Latin and Norman dialects is the following inscription :—

Nunc Xte te peto misere queso qui
venisti redime redditum noli dapanare
me tuu redeptu.

* Pur Paime William de Rothwelle q[ui] e[st] cy
Est sepule jadis Erchdiakn de Essex

Provendier de Cropwych Ferryng t Valmeton
anoine Prietz au Roi de gloire
qe de lui eneyt pyte en honour
de q[ui] devoutement dites Pater noster
Et Ave

M. S.

Conduntur hic exuviae
Edvardi Hill Armigeri Filii
Edvardi Hill Arm, cuius pietate
Memorabilia antecessor
Martinii Hill, Rector de A[sser]by
in com Leicestriæ primus in eadem

* William de Rothwelle died 4th of the Nones of August, 1230.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Reb. 2. <u>Copredy</u> | 17 Dec 1357 | Le Rev. |
| Arch. 2. <u>Essex</u> | 20 June 1357 | newe. 1.72 1/2 |
| Reb. of <u>Iseldon</u> | 22 July 1350 | |
| Rect. <u>St. Vedast</u> | 1327 | |
| 8th Reb. <u>St. Stephen West.</u> | Sept. 1350 | |



Si uerte le pecto milere quele
qui nemist redime aditu
noli dignare mecum respici
Pux laune william de Rothwelle qui est le pule
ad pericula de ell pecto redime de crepych
ferrugot salmeton aronne Priez auldy & glo
rie qd' uiuenest pte en honore & qd' uiuenent
ment dites Pater noster et me.

W. Blundell Sculps.

William de Rothwelle.

SEPULCHRAL BRASS. ROWELL CHURCH. 1220.



allgemeine Zeitung

aus dem gesamten Reich und aus dem Ausland

Comitatu religionis erat reformatæ concionator
quam Sumptibus properiis et ingenio propagavit
E' Johanne Hill de Hounston in Com Somer
-set milite orinndus, qui in re militari honori
-fice versatus est sub illustri regno Edvardi tertii
Gallorum donietoris. Obiit 28 die Aprilis Anno
Christi 1709.

Posuit Frater Robertus Administrator

—
M. S.

Susannæ Edvardi Hill Armig
Consortis

Johannis Maunsel de Thorpe Armig
Filiae

Undeviginti liberorum
Parentis

Obiit xxvi die Octobris

Anno { Domini 1731
Ætatis 88.

—
Here lyeth ——

— Edward Hill

— departed,

—
Here lyeth the body of Mr. John Hill Son of
Edward Hill, Esq., in Rowell, in the County of
Northampton, and Susanna his wife, who dved ye
26 of November, Anno 1701, Ætatis Suæ 34.

On a richly sculptured mural monument is the following inscription.

Memoriae

Benemerentis Sororis Magdelenæ Lane
Francisci, et Mariæ, (non minv virtutum splendore
quam generis antiquitate illustrium) dignissimæ Filiaæ,
In agro Northamptonensi Glendonio (Familiaæ cui cognomen
Lane longœva sede) oriundæ. Ingenio pulchritudine et pietate
insignis puellæ xxi etatis anno, xviii Nov, AD 1694 morti obsecundare
Occurrere visa est meliora anhelans Sapiens et magnanima virgo si annos
numeræ exiguum tenipus, si virtutum curiculum, œvum putares: Quippe superis
cognatam animam Cœli sibi precocius vindicârunt, Terre singularem beneficium
invidentes: Fratres et Sorores habuit xvii. Pater (vir ingenio doctrinæ et moribus,
Eximus) V ante illam annos obierat; Charissimam filiam pientissima mater
etiam num deflet, et deflebit dum spiritus maneat: Fratres, Franciscum, Radulphum
Thomam, Robertum Basileum, Georgium; Sorores, Dorotheam, Comitissam
de Denbigh, et Mariam, Superslites reliquit, sibi non minus sanguine

quam affectu conjunctissimos, et hasce sue familiæ
et bonorum omnianæ delicias longo
lucu desideraturos: Fratres Gulielmus,
parvus Iohannes. Sorores alter a Dorotæ a
altera Magdalena, Anna, Jana, Catharina, preclara
Soboles et cælorum incrementum ad Elyos Christicolarum
campos, dilectissimæ Sorori viam premonstraverant; et
Limen Olympi ingressæ jam gratulantes occurrunt complectunturq
Cognatæ umbræ æternæ regionis gloriam gaudiæq pudentes
prælibantesque. Quid de Te dicent posteri cogita cognate mortalis et Deum adora
cui in hac sæculorum saecu tam eximiam virtutem. Mundo
ostendere et deinde sibi adsciscere placvit.
Robertus Lane, defunctæ Testamentarius
Executor, posvit; et hæc adscriptis Thomas
Lane, dolens, mærensque.

At the top, within a lozenge, are the arms of Lane. Per pale Az and Gu, three Saltiers Arg. Beneath is an allegorical basso-rilievo; A lamb crossing a river, and in the firmament two Suns, one in meridian altitude, the other in perigee

On a handsome mural monument surmounted by the proper arms much defaced with a nowed snake for crest, is the following epitaph.

Memoriæ

Benemerentis mariti Andreæ Lant
 Armigeri de Thorpe Underwood, hujus oppidi*
 Confiniis domini. Pietatis et amicitarum
 Honestissimo cultu celeberrimi; Qui 17^o die
 Januarii, An Dom 1694, et 57^o ætatis,
 Mortalis esse desiit, et terræ redidit hic
 Depositas exuvias, Immortalis gloriæ novis
 Incrementis resuscitandas cum Juditha
 Uxore suâ unicâ; 35 Annos dulcissimam vitam
 Traduxerat, et ex eâ susceperat novem
 liberos, casti thalami charissima pignora
 Quorum Robertus, secundus Robertus, Juditha
 Eleonora, Anna, et Maria pulvere vicino
 Repositi quiescunt. Elizabetham, Catharinam,
 et Saram, familiæ spem, et cohæredes superstites.
 Reliquit; quarum primam Franciscus Lane

De Glendon Armig Uxorem duxerat.

Sic tu vivas viator, ut tibi Posteri
 Benedicant, et cæli mortuo benefaciant.

Posuit Juditha Lant, defuncti
 Vidva mærens.

Hic etiam deponuntur reliquiæ Judithæ Lant supra memorataæ
 Quæ piam efflavit animam trigesimo primo dñi Decembris

* Note the word Oppidum in the Latin language is generally construed a walled town, a town of importance; oppidulum being used to denote a town of inferior consequence.

Anno Domini 1705

Act 9, 36. This woman was full of good works and alms deeds which she did.

Here lyeth the body of
Dorothy Hill Daughter of
Edward Hill Esqe Sen^r who
departed this life January the
fifth Anno Dom 1704 in the
21 yeare of her age

—
M. S.

Requiescit hic firma Sp^e
Beatæ Resurrectionis
Susannah Hill filia natu
Maxima Edvardi Hill Arm
Decessit Julii 26 1706

Francis Lane Esqe
Eldest son of Francis
Lane, of Glendon, Esqe, married
Elizabeth the Daughter
of Andrew Lant of Thorpe
Underwood Esqe, died
without issue, Feby the 12th,
1698.

—
Here lyeth the body of Mrs.
Mary Lane, reliet of Francis
Lane Sen^r, late of Glendon
Esq deceased. She dyed
on the third day of July,
in the yeare of our Lord
1697,
Ætatis Suæ 60

Here lyeth the body of
 Francis Lane Sen^r of Glendon
 Esqe, who was buried Nov
 the 29th, in the yeare of our
 Lord 1689
 Aetatis Sui 61

Sarah Hill,
 youngest daughter of
 Edward Hill of Rowell
 Esqe, died February 26th,

1729

Here
 lyeth the body of
 Mary Cecill,
 one of ye daughters
 of Edward Hill Esqe,
 who departed this life
 December the 30th,
 1746,
 Aged 61 years.

M. S.
 Exuviae Agnitis Hill
 Edvardi Hill Armigeri
 Filiæ.
 Cælibem se servavit
 Quo sex viduas adoptaret
 Cohæredes
 Bonis et egenis Amica
 Amicum (spes est) paravit
 Deum
 Obiit Janvar 27: 1733.

Anna Ives
Reverendi Panli Ives L. L. D.
Uxor,
Edvardi Hill Armigeri
Filia,
Piam efflavit animam, 19^o Die
Septembris,
1732.

In
affectionate remembrance
of
Abraham Billson,
who departed this life
January 6. 1835 ;
in the 43rd year of his age.
late Surgeon
Rothwell.

In
memory of
Thomas Henry Billson,
who died July 18. 1831,
in the 6th year of his age.

Also of
Sarah wife of Abraham Billson,
who departed this life
December 17th, 1836,
Aged 33 years,

Here are deposited the remains of
John Hill, L. L. D. who died April 7th 1793,
Rector of Thorpe Malsor and Kelmarsh
both in the county of Northampton ;
and one of the Prebendaries of Wolverhampton.

The care of the parishes being small, his vacant hours were chiefly employed in the execution of the office of a Justice of the Peace; which He discharged with distinguished ability, and the utmost integrity. During his residence at Thorpe, which was near 30 years, it was the business and pleasure of his life, to instruct the ignorant in their civil and religious duty; and to assist and protect the innocent and distressed. Here also are deposited the remains of Elizabeth Hill his wife, who departed this life the 19th Sept. 1798. In her conduct all the Christian virtues were most eminently displayed and to her the words of the poet very justly apply ;

“ Of softest manners, unaffected mind
Lover of peace, and friend of human kind”
She was the second daughter and one of the Coheiresses of Thomas Medlycott Esq.
of Cottingham, in the County of Northampton.

Sacred to the memory of
George Hill Esq. Lord of this Manor and Hundred ;
and for 35 years his Majesty's ancient Sergeant at Law.
His superior Knowledge
Founded on Tully, and the best ancients Moralists,
Confirmed by the study of our first professional writers
and arranged in a memory uncommonly clear,
stamp'd his legal opinions with the highest authority;
while a simplicity of manner peculiarly his own,
made him in habits, in principles, and in virtues,
so different from the fleeting fashions of the day,
as to command respect from all that knew him.
Near her husband reposes Barbara Hill Medlycott,
Heiress of the Medlycotts of Cottingham,

and adorned with the milder domestic virtues of the wife, the mother, and the Christian.

He died Feby, 21st 1808, aged 92.

She died Aug, 10th 1800, aged 79.

Beneath are these arms. Quarterly. First, Gules a Chevron engrailed Ermine, between three Garbs, Or:—Second, Sable, a Fess, Or, between three Cinquefoils Argent; On a Canton Ermine, a lion rampant, Sable—Third, Paly of six pieces, Azure and Argent; on a chief Gules, a lion passant Or. Fourth, Argent, a Chevron between three Maunches Sable.... On an escutcheon of pretence are the arms of Medlycott, viz. Per Pale, and per Fess indented, Gules, and Azure, three lioncels rampant Argent.—

Here lyeth the body of Sir John Humble Barroneght who departed this life February the 7th, Anno Dom 1723, in the 44th year of his age;

who married Sarah the daughter of Andrew Lant Esq. granddaughter of Richard Andrews of Thorpe Underwood in Northamptonshire; by whom he had five children, four Sons, and one Daughter, of which there is now living, Sir William Humble Barroneght, and Mary his Sister.

Here also lyeth the bodyes of two Sons Lante and John.

Above are these arms. For Humble, Sable, a Stag trippant Or, on a chief dancettee Argent, a trefoil Vert; impaling, for Lant, Per pale Argent, and Gules, a Cross engrailed, counterchanged, in the dexter chief, a cinquefoil of the second.—

Near this place
are

Deposited the remains of
Sir William Humble Bart.

and of his wife

The Hon^{ble} Dame Elizabeth Humble,
second daughter

of the late Right Hon^{ble} Gilbert Lord Barnard,
of Barnard Castle in the County of Durham.

They intermarried in the year 1732,
and had issue two sons,

Robert and John who died in their childhood,
and lie here interred

with their tender and worthy parents.

In the month of October, 1742,

Sir William Humble
soon after departed this life,
and his afflicted widow
the said Dame Elizabeth Humble,
Exchang'd this troublesome world
for one of perpetual felicity,
on the 22nd of February,
in the year of our Lord

1770.

Lant, et Johannes Humble

Summæ spei eximiæ formæ p....

filii Johannis Humble Bar....

& Saræ uxoris suæ sub hoc lap....

quasi in cunabulis conquiescunt

Lant quinquennis obiit March 24^o 1710

Johannes quadriennis Augsti 5^o, 1711

Talium, est regnum cælorum

Above are the Arms of Humble, and on an
escutcheon of pretence, those of Lant.

Here

Lyeth the body of Richard Andrew of Thorp Underwood Esqr. the third son of Robert Andrew of Harleston in ye County of Northampton Esqr. He died the 6th of July, Anno 1654, in the 75th year of his age.

Here

Lyeth also the body of Andrew Lant of Thorp Underwood Esqr. son of Robert Lant Esqr. and grandson of the above mentioned Richard Andrew : He departed this life the 17 of January 169⁴₃ in ye 57 year of his age.

In memory of William the son of Charles Stevens Gent. by Mary his wife;
Died Aug. 2nd 1768, Aged 48 years.

In memory of Edward Stevens, who died ye 22nd April, 1751, Aged 69.

In memory of Joseph, son of Charles Stevens Gent. by Frances his wife ; He died May 4, 1763, Aged 34.

Above are these Arms, A Sling, between two Pheons barbed. Crest, A Fox passant, holding in his teeth an arrow.

In memory of Joseph Stevens, Gent. he died 5th Jany., 1752, Aged 85.

In memory of Charles Stevens died 7th of March 1752, Aged 66,
Also of Frances his wife, who

died 10th Nov^r 1761. Aged 74.

Above are the same arms.

M. S.

of Annie Caroline Cocksedge, wife of
Thomas Abraham Cocksedge Esq., Surgeon
obii^t Dec^r., 28, 1841. Aged 32.

In memory of Sarah the wife of George Tupman
Died Nov. ^{rc} 4th, 1765. Aged 72.

“ Yesterday’s past, to morrow is not thine,
This day thy life to virtuous acts incline.”

Bridges describes several monuments as visible in
the chancel at the date of his History of North-
amptonshire, of which no traces now remain.—

THE CHAPEL OF THE MATER DOLORIS,
is on the North side of the Chancel. The bracket
on which the statue of the Virgin formerly was
placed, is still undisturbed; having beneath it a
trifoliated piscina, surmounted by a cherubs head.
It is lighted by two windows in the north wall,
a very find one at the eastern extremity having
been long since filled in with plaster; and where
the coats of whitewash have mouldered away, the
walls beneath appear to have been painted in
arabesque. In the north wall is a low Arch such
as formerly surmounted the tombs of ecclesiastics,
and the probability that it once served such a
purpose, is strengthened by the fact of a
sarcophagus Lid, on which is sculptured in basso
rilievo an abbatial cross, having been found here.
The entire floor is raised three feet higher than
the body of the church. There are two monu-
mental inscriptions in this portion of the sacred
pile, the first (which is scarcely legible) to the

memory of Thomas Ponder, Gentleman, the philanthropic founder of Ponder's Alms houses hereafter to be noticed; and the second, is as follows.

Beneath
this stone lie the remains of
Matilda Harriet

only child of the Revd. A Macpherson, B. D.

Vicar of this parish, and

Caroline his wife

Born Oct. 26th, 1834;

Died June 29th, 1843;

Forgive, blest shade, the tributary tear,
That mourns thy exit from a world like this;
Forgive the wish that would have kept thee here,
And stay'd thy progress to the seats of bliss.

Adjoining this Chapel is the ancient
Sacristy,

a small apartment 6 yards long, by 3 in breadth: It has a ruined fire place, a small square window with ancient shutters, and is now employed by the Sexton for the reception of his spades, mattocks, &c. Formerly it was probably used as a shelter by the persons employed to watch the graves of the newly interred. The ponderous door leading hence into the Chancel, with its ancient lock and key, are worthy of notice—

THE NAVE OF THE CHURCH,

With portions of the North and South Aisles, are all now used during the celebration of Divine Service; so much is the noble edifice curtailed of its fair proportions—It is entered beneath the tower by an insignificant, low, and rounded arch, the original magnificent western approach having been sacrificed in the construction of an organ

gallery, and belfry; indeed the fine grained roof, with its scroll bearing cherubim, can only be seen by ascending to the latter apartment. At the point of intersection of the several entrances from the West, North, and South, the Font is very judiciously placed; It is a hexagonal pillar, placed upon a basement from which spring six pilasters surmounted by palm leaf capitals, and connected by a crocketed and indented frieze:

This is repeated in miniature about a foot from the surface, and the whole is terminated by a leaded aperture sufficient to permit the total immersion of an infant.

There is only one Escutcheon in this portion of the Church—It is suspended from the north wall, and is that of the Hon^{ble} Barbara Cockayne Medlycott — Within a lozenge: quarterly, 1st, and 4th, Argent, three locks, Gules; 2nd, and 3rd Gules, Three Lioncels passant guardant per pale, Or, and argent: On an escutcheon of pretence the lady's paternal arms.

Within the altar rails is a small but handsome mural monument with the following elegant epitaph.

In a vault on the right side of the altar
are deposited the remains of

The Hon^{ble} Barbara Cockayne Medlycott,
Relict of the Hon^{ble} William Cockayne of Rushton
Hall in this County, Daughter of George Hil
Esq^{re} King's Ancient Serjeant at law, and of Anne
Barbara his wife Lady of the Manor and Hundred
of Rowell.

The numerous descendants and friends of this
justly venerated lady need no memorial of those
distinguished qualities which are indelibly engraven
on their hearts: yet posterity should be incited to
emulate the steady principle, clear discernment

and judicious beneficence which so conspicuously marked her character:

Let the reader also bear in mind that the survivors
" Sorrow not, even as those which have no hope"
for they humbly trust

That though the merits and mediation of her
blessed Redeemer,

She has passed from a life of Christian virtue to a
bright and glorious immortality.

She died at Northampton on the 2d day of June 1838
Aged 85 years.

In an escutcheon beneath the inscription, are
the arms just described, the only difference being
the impalement of the paternal coat.

*On a slab near the foot of the pulpit stairs, is
the following—*

In memory
of Nathanael Hill, Clerk,
fourth son of Edward Hill,
Esq, who died April 28, 1732,
also of Mrs. Elizabeth Hill,
Wife of the said Nathanael
Hill, who dyed July 20 1753.

In the north aisle—

Sam^l Scriven Gent.
Born } December 11, 1690.
Died } 17, 1713.

In memory of
Thomas Dickens Gent.
who departed this life
January 31st 1795,
in the 81st year of his age,

Here lies the body of George Daggett, Gent,

the husband of Elizabeth Daggett,
who departed this life Feb 10, 1747.

Aged 33 years.

Memento Mori.

At the western extremity of this aisle, is the small door way which once led to the turnpike stair of the Campanile:—Over the north door, is this table of Benefactions to the Parish of Rothwell, Richard Andrews Esq. of Thorpe Underwood, by will dated the 19th of January 1653, bequeathed to the poor of the parish of Rothwell, the sum of £160; to be laid out and employ'd for the advantage of the said poor.

Edward Hunt, late of Broughton, died Nov. the 23rd,) 1674, and by will did give and bequeath the sum of 8, 13, 4 a year, to 80 poor widows, aged persons, and children of this parish, to be paid half yearly. James Cooper, late of Weldon, died March 22, 1727, and by will left to the poor of Rothwell, 60 dozens of bread yearly for ever. Mrs Agnes Hill late of Rothwell, did by will dated the 30th of July, 1728, bequeath the sum of £700, to be laid out in the purchase of freehold lands, or tenements, for the benefit of six poor widows of this parish.

Joseph Bentham, Clerk, late of Broughton, by will did give and appoint the sum of 10s. yearly, to be paid to the poor of this parish, on the 29th of May.

Near the Font are the following—

H. S. S.

Mariæ Chapman

Exuviae.

1726.

Here
lieth interr'd the body of
David Croysdil
Gent.

who departed this life
the 17th of December, 1761,
Aged 58.

Here
lieth the remains of
Elizabeth Chapman, the
wife of Edward Chapman,
and daughter of Jonathan

Warner of Northampton, Gent.
who departed this life the 12th day of March,
1765.

in the 77th year of her age.

H. S. S.

Reliquiae Edvardi Chapman, A. M.

Hujus Ecclesiæ Vicarii :
Viri

In literis Sacris, ac Humanis,
Hand mediocriter versati ;
Uxorem duxit Elizabetham,
Jonathan Warner de Northamptonia,
Gent,

Filiam natu minorem :

Ex qua, tres suscepit liberos ;
Horum, duo sunt superstites.

Obiit Martii die 5^{to} A. D. 1740,
aetatis 47.

In memory of
Thomas Chapman Esq^{re},

the son of the Revd. Mr.
 Edward Chapman,
 late Vicar of this parish,
 by Elizabeth his wife;
 who departed this life
 the 14th day of Nov 1771,
 in the 42nd. year of his age.

At the entrance of the inner western door, are two stone slabs, from which the Sepulchral brasses have been removed.

On a mural tablet above the South door, is this inscription—

To the right of this Tablet
 are interr'd the remains
 of Eliza Bosworth, wife
 of William Bosworth Clerk;
 who died 2nd April, 1816.

Aged 37.

Being taught of God, and influenced by His grace, she was excelled by few, for unaffected piety, meekness of spirit, patience under sufferings, and exemplary conduct in the

Discharge of relative duties.

Against the South wall is the following

Extract from the will of Francis Fortesque Turvile Esq, of Bosworth Hall, in the County Leicester.—Francis Fortesque Turvile Esq, by will bearing date 20th day of May, 1829, gave the sum of One hundred pounds at interest, in the purchase of Three pounds per Centum Consolidated Bank Annuities, in the names of such two or more persons as shall be appointed at a vestry meeting, to be holden for the parish of Rothwell, otherwise Rowell, in the County of

Northampton: And new Trustees to be from time to time appointed in like manner, and the said last mentioned annuities to be held upon Trust, that the persons for the time being, in whose names the same shall be invested, do and shall pay the dividends and annual income thereof, to the officiating Clergyman and Churchwardens for the time being, of the said parish of Rothwell, otherwise Rowell; to be by them Laid out at Christmas, in every year, in the purchase of Coals, to be given to such poor persons of the said last mentioned parish, as the said Clergyman and Churchwardens for the time being, or the major part of them, so as the Clergyman be one, shall in their discretion deem the most proper objects.—The above sum is invested in the three per cent Annuities, in the names of

Thomas, P. Maunsell Esqr.
John, E. Maunsell Esqr.
William, T. Maunsell Esqr.
and Charles Brown, } Trustees.

April, 3rd, 1840.

On Slabs at the extremity of the S. Aisle, are the following inscriptions.

Underneath.
are deposited the remains
of the Revd. H. Barnett,
more than 36 years
Vicar
of this parish
Who.....
.....

Exc.
and departed this world
.... 23. 1770
Anno Ætatis
also
the remains of
one of his children.

To the pious memory of
Mrs Mary Cattell, wife
of Joseph Cattell, M.A.
Vicar of this church ;
who Exchanged this
mortal life for a better

Dom 1711

Aug. 6, Anno Ætatis, 33.
Joseph, the only child of the
abovenamed Joseph and Mary
Cattell, departed this life
Feby 2. 1711, Aged 6 months.
Joseph Cattell, M.A. y^e late
worthy Vicar of this Pa
rish, lyeth here also interr'd.
Obiit Dec^r A.D. 1719,

Ætat 43,

Be ye therefore followers of
God as dear children
Eph. the 5th, Ver. y^e 1st.

Above the Vestry door,

The Accommodation in this Church was increased
in the year 1836, by which means 511 additional
Sittings were obtained, and in consequence of a
grant from the Incorporated Society for promoting
the enlargement, building, and repairing of churches



Two medievel figures representing man and woman in their best attire. The man wears a long robe with a high collar and a small bow at the waist. The woman wears a long robe with a high collar and a patterned panel on the side. Both figures are standing with their hands clasped in front of them.

3 G.B.P.

Sanders' Brass, Rowell Ch

1870-1871

and chapels, 400 of that number are hereby declared to be free and unappropriated for ever, in addition to 456 sittings formerly provided, 110 of which are free.

A. Macpherson Vicar.

William Hafford
Charles Brown
Robert Hafford
Hugh King

Churchwardens.

At the entrance to the Vestry on a blue slab, are two very elegant brasses of the time of Henry 8th. whith the following inscripton in Black letter.

Hic jacet Edvardus Saunders quondam
de Haryngton primus fundator istius Cauta-
rie et Johanna uxor ejus qui quidem Edwar-
dus obiit xix die Junii A. Dui MDXIII
quor aiabus propicietur Deus, Amen.

At each corner of this slab was formerly a coat of Arms, three of which now remain: 1st. Party per Chevron, 3 Elephant's heads erased—2nd. The same arms impaling those of the wife—On a Bend, 3 Oxen passant—3rd. same as the 1st. These are all the monuments &c in the main body of the building: It is neatly pewed, and a temporary altar is placed beneath the arch which once surmounted the Rood loft, of which not a vestige remains, excepting the low archway by which it was formerly entered from the Chancel—The noble features of the western entrance, are almost obscured by a gallery containing a small organ, and a time piece—There is still much for the Architect to admire in this portion of the Church; its light and lofty proportions, and the many Sculptured brackets of Statues, swept away most

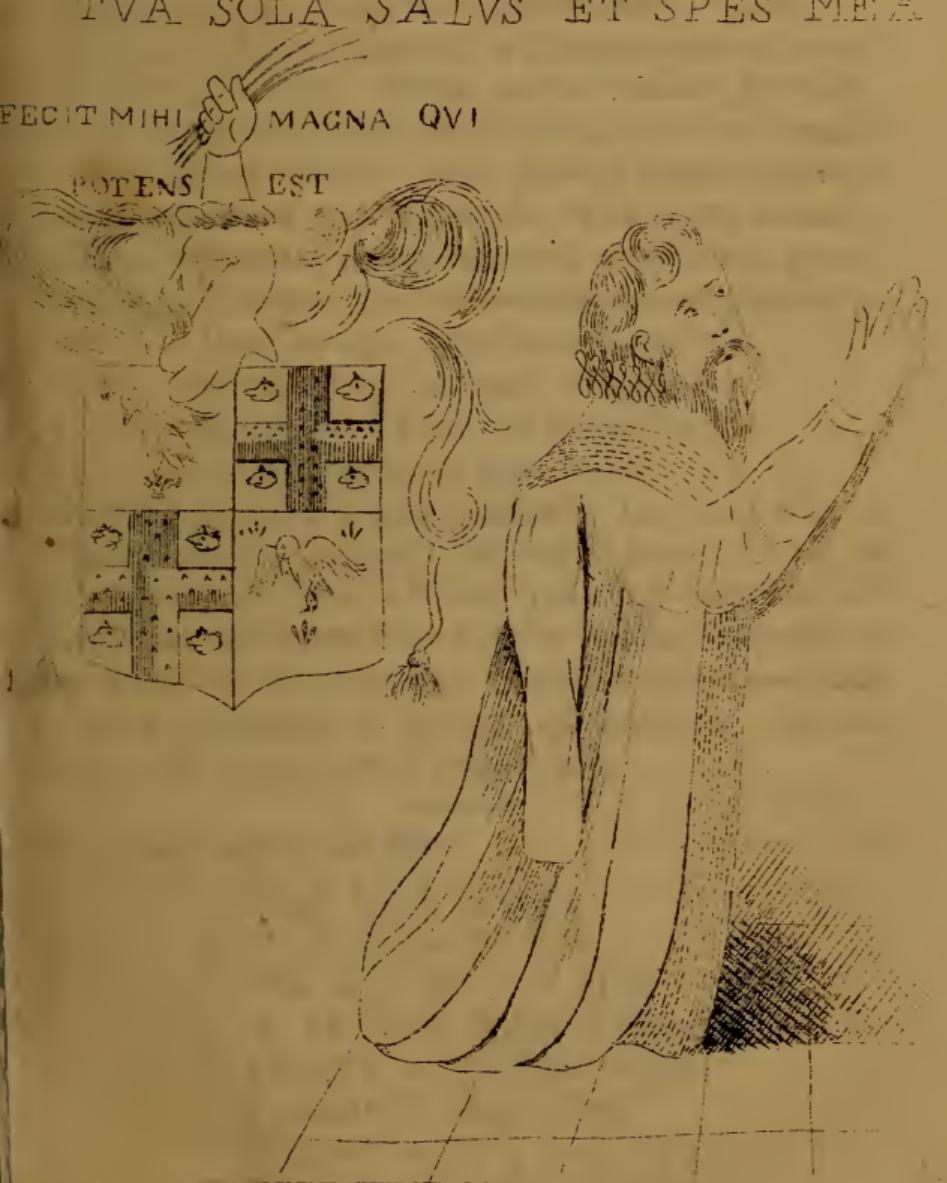
probably at the Reformation. A singular trifacial terminal on the left of the present altar, is especially worthy of notice.

SAUNDERS CHAPEL, OR THE SOUTH CHAUNTRY—

This small building now used as a vestry, is of all portions of the venerable building least altered. The interstices between the arches have been closed with plaster, a door opening to the churchyard, and another into the South aisle, have been added; and these constitute the principal changes undergone by this mortuary Chapel, whose contents are as follow—Near the outer door is an altar tomb, very old, without any inscription, but on a richly diapered shield in front, is a sculpture apparently intended to represent a Swan rising, from which we may conclude it belongs to the ducal family of Stafford, as they bore for crest "A swan rising argent, beaked Sable, out of a ducal Coronet," which latter being omitted, proves the death of the individual to have occurred prior to the attainment of that dignity by the family, and therefore early in the fourteenth century. This therefore cannot be the original situation of the monument;—It was probably placed here on the demolition of the South Transept—Opposite this, is another altar tomb of later date: upon the central shield is sculptured a Pelican vulning herself, between three Fleur de lis, two in chief, and one in base with the following inscription on brass

Frange esvienti pane tvvm, et egenos
Vagosq indvc in domvm tvam. Cvm videris
Nvdvm operi evm et carnem tvam me despexeris
Tvnc ervmpet qvasi mane lymen tvvm
Fet sanitas tva citius oriatvr et ante ibit

DOMINE EGO INVILIS SERVVS TVVS
ET OPERA OMNIA MEA VILESCVT
CORAM TE IDEO IN MISERICORDIA
TVA SOLA SALVS ET SPES MEA



Ragsdale's Sepulch Brass,
ROWELL CHURCH.

1780. 1800. 1820. 1840. 1860. 1880. 1900. 1920. 1940. 1960. 1980. 2000.

Faciem tvam justitia tva. Tvinc invocabis et
Dominus exaudiet te Clamabis, et dicet, ecce adsum.

Esaie 58.

At the lower end of the tomb is this inscription:

Hic jacet ille vir probus et pius Owinus
Ragdale, qui hospitivm posvit Jesv. Iste
Accipiens benedictionem a Domino eam retribuit
Pauperibus suis. Obiit primo Decem A° 1591.
On the wall over against the tomb, in a deal frame,
is the brass which was once placed between
these portions of the Epitaph: The pious founder
of Jesus' Hospital is represented in a furred gown,
kneeling; & above him this sentence isengraved—

Domine ego invitis servus tuus
et omnia opera mea vilescant
coram te. Ideo in misericordia
tua sola salvs et spes mea—

Behind are these arms, quarterly 1st, and 4th; a
Pelican vulning herself between three Fleur de
lis;—2nd, and 3rd, a Cross paly of Ermine, and
Erminois, between four boar's heads, couped, in
the mouth of each an oak branch fructed.—Crest,
a hand grasping a plume of feathers. Motto,
Fecit mihi magna, qui potens est.

On a slab upon the floor

Here lyeth ye body
of Ambrose Archer,
who died May ye 11th
A. D. 1715. Aged 37 years.
I waded in troubled water,
I practised meditation,
I have fought a good fight
For a Crown of salvation.

D 2.

On a Blue slab, much worn and nearly illegible is the following mutilated sculpture &c. Of the Arms, nothing can be decyphered, but that the honourable ordinary in the coat was a Chevron engrailed, and that the crest, is an arm embowed, the haund gauntleted, and grasping a baton—On the left is a Serpent biting its tail, the emblem of eternity; and on the right is a semi recumbent figure of a Knight, leaning his elbow upon a Skull, placed upon a tripod.

It is very singular that Bridges takes no notice of this monument: No more of the epitaph than the following, is legible.—

Here

lies a sleep the body of
S.....
Rothwell

 17.....Aged 27..

An engraving of this monument will be given with the appendix.

Adjoining, is another slab still more defaced, on which the same arms may be traced; and at the foot of these is another, on which the name of Hill, alone, is now legible; the full inscription however is given by Bridges, as follows;—

To the memory of
 Nathaniel Hill, Gent. who
 departed this life Sep. the 12th,
 A.D. 1708, in the 36th year
 of his age.

 He lived in the House called the Nunery Rothwell.

A singular square of stone, not unlike a small window frame in the north wall of this Chapel, is decided by that learned antiquary the Revd. G. A. Poole, to have once formed part of a confessional.

THE BONE CAVERNS,

Passing through a little door, on the left hand side of the South porch, and descending some seventeen steps of a winding staircase, the Visitor passes through another door, into a silent vault, tenanted, (as is asserted by those who have taken the trouble to calculate,) by thirty thousand Skeletons. It is singular that this remarkable collection of human remains, (which it is well known, has occupied it present situation for at least a century and half,) should have altogether escaped the notice of Mr. Bridges. The vault in which they are deposited, is a long cryptiform structure, with a low groined roof; and the bones are carefully packed in alternate strata, of skulls, arms, legs, and so forth. They were discovered, says the legend, something more than one hundred and fifty years since, by a grave digger; who whilst pursuing his vocation, and wielding his mattock, probably with unusual energy, suddenly found himself precipitated into a dark abyss; and one may easily imagine his consternation, when the dust had subsided, and his eyes grown accustomed to the darkness, at discovering himself in this awful assemblage of past generations. Nothing is known with certainty respecting the date of this vast collection; and conjecture, as usual, has been liberal in assigning various wild, and improbable reasons for its formation. 1st it is asserted, that these remains are the conse-

quence of a sanguinary battle in very early times, and the supporters of this hypothesis profess to discover certain peculiarities in the osseous structure, shewing a large proportion of the deceased to have been natives of a distant land;—that all were in the prime of life;—and that most of the skulls are fractured, as though by violent blows with deadly weapons. 2ndly. That these are the remains of the slain at Naseby—Each of these statements is easily refuted:—With respect to the former it is very certain, that any encounter so sanguinary as to result in the number of slain here interred occurring between the Anglo-Saxon era, and our own day, could not possibly have escaped record. I have examined carefully, and at leisure, the Crania; and can discover none but the Meso-bregmate skulls, common to these islands;—and although the remains are those of adults, it is solely because the less densely organized bones of earlier life, have not resisted in an equal degree that decay, which has destroyed all the spongybones once appertaining to the skeletons under discussion. I have discovered more than one skull, in which the alveolar sockets were entirely absorbed, an effect of age rarely produced under eighty years I should imagine. And as to the marks of injury visible on some, they will be attributed I think by the impartial observer rather to the spade and foot of the sexton than the battle axe and stout arm of the ancient Briton. The second supposition, that they were brought from Naseby, requires very little notice: Taking the highest authenticated number of the slain in that engagement, it certainly did not exceed one thousand; all of whom were interred in pits, upon the field of battle, the following day.

That most of these bodies were lying in the earth for a number of years, is proved, I think, by these several circumstances : First a careful examination of the interior of many of the Skulls shows that roots have vegetated within them, the dry fibres of which I have often observed ;—next, the teeth are nearly all absent, and it is notoriously one of the first effects of inhumation upon the osseous system, by which the teeth are loosened ; and lastly we have two sources from which bodies may have been exhumed, and reinterred beneath the mother church ; and those are the Chapel of the Virgin, and that moiety of the original grave yard which has evidently at some long distant time been taken from the church. If the conjecture be correct, that the vault in which, they are contained is a part of the Crypt, in which, by the Romanists the funeral service was commonly proformed, it is probable that about the period of the Reformation when it was no longer required for this purpose, and when the population of Rowell must have materially decreased the Commissioners may have sequestered to secular purposes a portion of the churchyard, and directed the disturbed remains to be deposited in the disused Crypt, and the latter finally closed up ¶

Such is the excellent order in which the bones are kept, and the cleanly condition of the vault, that although necessarily a solemn, it is by no means a revolting spectacle ; one feature only excepted—and that is the unaccountable tendency of the English for inscribing their names, which has led many of the visitors to scrawl their designations, and addresses, not only upon the

¶ Human bones have been dug up in front of Jesus Hospital S. E. of the church yard.

walls, and roof, but even upon the mouldering remains they contain. The silent agent by which the demolition of this interesting relic of antiquity is rapidly being effected, is the Atmosphere: On a damp day the air of the cavern is noxious, heavy, and oppressive; whilst the rapid removal of Hydrogen from that source, is evidenced by the large drops of moisture visible around; and on the other hand the equally extensive appropriation of Oxygen, is shewn by the size of the many crystals of Phosphoric acid, with which the bones are encrusted. In highly electric states of the weather, the candles of the guide burn with a peculiarly lurid flame, and if one have nerve enough at such seasons to descend without their assistance, the pale glimmering of phosphorescent light, may occasionally be seen hovering about the farther extremity of the vault; a natural, but to most persons, a somewhat startling phenomenon. At the eastern extremity of the cavern, is a rude sketch, apparently intended to represent the Resurrection.

In that portion of the western entrance immediately beneath the tower is a mortuary memorial, and the fragment of another; both of which are here given:—

My flesh and my heart faileth,
but God is ye strength of my
heart, and my portion for ever.

In memory of
Mary Groom
who departed this
life ye 26 of Septemb
1750, in ye 57th year
of her age.



Ancient Figures in the Belfry - Rowell Church.

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ANCIENT FIGURES IN THE BELFRY ROWEL CH.

Here is also the fragment of the lid once belonging to a stone Coffin, three of which, have, at different times, been discovered.—The Visitor to Rowell church is particularly requested to take the trouble of ascending to the bellfry; where he will obtain a close view of the beautiful roof, whose groinings are enriched by the representation, among other subjects, of Ladie's head dresses in the reigns of Henry 3rd, and Edwd 1st.

The tower contains six bells, with the following inscriptions :—

1st.

“ Henry Bagley me fecit, 1682 Cantate Domino canticum novum. Edward Hill Esq. 1682.”

Around the top are stamped representations of the head, and legend of Charles 2nd.

2nd.

“ Henry Bagley made mee 1682.” and similarly stamped

3rd.

“ William Lightfoot, Vicker, Robert Jonathan, Smith. 1682.”

4th.

“ 1682. William Stephens, and Lan Driver, Churchwardens, Matthew Bagley made mee.”

5th.

“ T. Eayre, Kettering I. H. S. Nazarene, Rex Judeorum, Fili Dei miserere mei, 1726, Gloria Patri, Filio et Spiritui Sancto.”

6th.

Nathanael Hill, Armiger, Dom Manery, Edward Chapman, Vicarius. W. Palmer, W. Shortland, R. Tongue, L. Drver. Churchwardens.

anno Dom-i, 1725.

mong the bells, are still to be seen the hammers,

and wires, by which the Chimes were played ; and which have been discontinued but recently.

EXTERNAL ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES.

The western doorway is contained in a recess, surmounted by an arch, consisting of numerous Round, and three Chevron mouldings; of which last, two are horizontal, and one, the central, projecting,—supported by five slender pilasters on either side. Immediately above this archway, are three semicircular arches of construction, inserted for the purpose of strengthening the massive tower, for the support of the lofty spire by which it was once terminated :—and it is not unworthy of remark that of three arches which are also distinguishable on the South side, one is of that primitive construction, adopted in the Anglo Saxon era.—Above these are two lofty windows divided by a stone transom into two compartments. At the eastern extremity of the South Chauntry is a window which was most probably placed there on the demolition of the transept, of the Perpendicular style, divided by a billeted transom, and the mullions continued vertically. The great window of the Chancel is in tolerable preservation, and presents a fine example of the Decorated style :—On the left side of this window, looking toward the churchyard, is a large statuary bracket; which from its proportions, would appear to have supported at an earlier period, an effigy of considerable magnitude. The beautiful buttresses by which this portion of the church is terminated, and the pinnacles they support, are well worthy of examination. The most remarkable feature of the whole building, is probably, the winding stair

turret by which the campanile was formerly reached;—It is situated on the north side of the tower, but the ascent having become dangerous from decay, it has been partially dismantled and closed up. On the whole, every appearance about the structure tends to confirm the conjecture, by which the middle of the twelfth century is indicated as the date of its commencement, and the earlier years of the thirteenth,* as that of its completion.

The churchyard, contains but few objects claiming particular notice: one of the chief, is a worn and mutilated recumbent slab, on which two semi figures are carved. There are also two or three altar tombs of the early part of the seventeenth century, whose elaborate sculpture forbids the supposition, that they were originally placed in a situation so slightly protected from the injurious effects of weather, and casualty.—Near the end of the chancel, is a stone with the following inscription.

Beneath
lie the remains of
John Cogan,
Apothecary:
Author of an Essay on the
Epistle to the Romans, and
other anonymous pieces.
all which he published,
more under a sense of their
truth and importance, than in
prospect of gain or success.
After a life of labour and

* The female headdresses upon the groining of the bellfry roof, were in vogue from 1216, to 1272.—

trial, he died, trusting alone
in Christ for eternal life,
April 23, 1784,
Aged 86.

In closing this imperfect account of Rowell Church, the writer records with great satisfaction, the commencement of the restoration of the Chancel roof, by order of —— Turville Esq., of Bosworth Hall, Leicestershire.

Chapel of ease to Rowell Church, at Orton.

Rather more than a mile distant from Rowell, in a southwesterly direction, is the hamlet of Orton; of which the following concise description is given by Bridges." Of this name is an hamlet pertaining to the manor of Rothwell, and having been always held by the same possessors. Here is a chapel of ease where the Vicar of Rothwell performs Divine Service once a month." And as corroborating this statement, he refers to a register of John of Buckingham, Bishop of Lincoln. At the present date, the hamlet contains 23 houses, and 110 inhabitants; and although as we have seen it is united to Rowell for ecclesiastical purposes, it enjoys within itself all other parochial privileges. Orton is pleasantly situated on an elevated locality, and contains several respectable houses; the cottages also are of a superior character to those generally met with in this county. Assessed Property, £1,584. Poor rates in 1838, £104. 15. 0. The church, which both externally and internally, presents, an appearance most creditable to the inhabitants, is an edifice in the Early English style; having a low square embattled tower, containing one bell, a nave with clerestory,

South aisle, and a diminutive chancel. The length of the nave is 36 feet, and on its south side, separated from it by three pointed arches, resting on octagonal pillars, is a small aisle. A massive Saxon arch divides the nave from the chancel. The ancient font is of a quadrilateral shape, having at the angles grotesque heads, rudely executed; one that of a bear, muzzled, the second that of a man, the third of a tiger, and the fourth, of a ram: It is supported by an appropriate pedestal of modern construction. There is nothing very remarkable in the windows. On the north side are two plain pointed lights, divided by a simple mullion bifurcating towards the head. Corresponding windows are found in the South aisle, with the addition of a small lancet light, at its Eastern extremity. Two small clerestory windows in the decorated style are inserted in the South wall; and the chancel is lighted by a plain round headed window. Not the slightest trace of any heraldic bearing is to be found within the church. The following are the only epitaphs it contains.

In memory of
Richard Vialls,
Died May 21st, 1774,
in the 86th, year
of his age.

Here lieth the body
of Thos Dainty, he died
February the 2, 1737,
aged 73 years.
also the body of Frances
Dainty his Wife, she died
May the 16th, 1754,
aged 89 years.

To the memory of
 Elizabeth ye wife of James Dainty,
 who died Feb ye 8th, 1766,
 aged 48 years.

Also William their son, died May ye 8
 1761, in ye 2nd year of his age.
 Also James Dainty Sen, who died Oct
 the 8, 1782; aged 74 years.

In memory of
 James Dainty,
 who departed this life
 the 29th day of November,
 1828,
 in the 74th year of his age.

In memory of
 John Dainty,
 who departed this life
 the 28th day of September,
 1829,
 in the 73rd year of his age.

In memory of
 William Bryan,
 who departed this life, June
 the 11th 1761, in the
 80th year of his age.

In memory of
 Elizabeth, the wife of
 William Bryan, who
 died Nov ye 19, 1762
 in ye 78th year of her age.

On an extremely neat mural tablet against the South wall is the following inscription.

Sacred
to the memory of
David Oswin,
who departed this life
April 29th, 1838,
Aged eighty two years.

"Shall not the Judge of all the world do right"

The Churchyard at the present time contains no mortuary Memorial whatever. The Church was thoroughly repaired in 1842; and the burial ground which was not previously consecrated, having been properly set apart for interments the inhabitants have now their own Registers, which take date from the year 1846. There is one Sunday school in the hamlet. The principal, if not the sole landed proprietor of this hamlet, is H. H. H. Hungerford Esq., of Dingley Park.

The following is the list of persons entitled to vote at the Election of Knights of the Shire.

H. Hungerford Esq.
William Cook.
William Oswin.
John Wiggins.
Robert Wiggins.

Vicarial roll of Rothwell cum Orton.

According to the register of Hugo Wells, Bishop of Lincoln, the Vicarage was ordained in the year 1220; and the patronage vested in the Abbot of Cirencester,—who instituted.

William de Rowell, 4 Non. Aug. 1220.
Nicholas son of Stephen, 1222.
E 2.

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| William of William Thorpe, | 1270. |
| John of St. Albans, | 1309. |
| Robert of Bury. | |

At this period, the patronage, from some cause unexplained, reverted to the Crown ; which appointed

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Thomas Nunch, | 1352. |
| Dom Richard Graunt alias Everdon, | |
| Walter Wotton, | 1419. |
| Nicholas Counce. | |
| William Inett, | 1454. |
| Dom, Stephen Brasyer, | 1455. |
| — John Venor, | 1464. |
| — Henry Draper, | 1468. |
| — Roger Cooper, | 1512. |
| John Nayler, | 1537. |

At the latter end of the reign of Henry the 8th, the patronage was held by Thomas Hilton, of London : by whom the two following presentations were made.

| | |
|---|-------|
| Dom, Jacob Robert, | 1539. |
| Adam Slater, | 1561. |
| Again reverting to the Crown. Queen Elizabeth appointed Francis Parson, | 1566. |

Her successor James 1st. instituted

Samuel Wilblood, 1614, and the advowson then became possessed by the Lords Stanhope, of Harrington ; by whom several of the subsequent presentations were made. At this time, the right of presentation is alternately exercised by three parties.

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| Robert Booth, | 1619. |
| John Hill, | 1638. |
| John Humphery, | 1663. |
| William Lightfoote, | 1686. |
| John York, | 1693. |

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| John Ensor; | 1694. |
| Richard Brook; | 1698. |
| Joseph Catell, | 1700. |
| Edward Chapman, M.A. | 1720. |
| Thomas Barnett, M.A. | 1740. |
| Edward Waller, | 1776. |
| Samuel Cricke; | 1780. |
| William Brotherhood B. A. | 1828. |
| Allan Macpherson B. D. | 1835. the |

present learned, and beneficent Vicar.

It only remains to observe, that this Church is the head of the Deanery of Rothwell.—

THE AUGUSTINE NUNNERY.

The residence termed the Nunnery at the present time, occupies with its outbuildings, the site of the Conventional edifice; and was erected in the year 1631. It has been most carefully examined but with the exception of a little ancient carving on one of the doors, no relic of the preceding building is visible. Very little of the establishment itself is known; and for even this little we are indebted to the indefatigable Antiquary, Mr. Bridges, whose account is subjoined.

“ In Rothwell was a small priory of nuns of the Angustin order, to the honor of S. John Baptist. The founder is no where mentioned, but probably was one of the Clare family, whose ancestors in the manor were patrons of it. In the ninth year of Ric. 2nd, the rectory of Desborough was appropriated to this convent. At the survey in 1535, 26, Hen 8th, the site of the Priory with its yards, gardens, orchards and houses standing within the precincts of it, were not rated, and the profits arising from Desborough rectory

were collected at £10. 10s. 4d. out of which being deducted, the Bishop of Lincoln 6s. 8d. to the Archdeacon of Northampton for synodals and procurations for the rectory, 10s. 7d. in a pension to the Vicar 20s. and to a stipendiary chaplain daily officiating in the priory 53s. 4d. the clear yearly revenue amounted only to £5. 19s. 8d. Of the Prioresses who governed it, we find the following names recorded. The first is

Agnes, upon whose deceasē in 1305.

Alice de Cravenho, with the consent of Ralph de Monthermer Earl of Gloucester, and Hertford, the patron, was elected to succeed her. This Lady resigning her office in 1312,

Amicia de Navesby was appointed in her place. How long she continued in it doth not appear; but on a vacancy in 1349,

Catherine de Isham, was chosen to fill it. Her successor appears to have been,

Catherine del Grene, who dying in 1381, the convent having obtained licence of election from the Earl of Stafford, nominated,

Milicent de Kybworth, in her room. She seemeth to have enjoyed it but a very little time, being succeeded, though we do not find in what year, by

Alice Brymyugton; who making a vacancy by death in 1395, the eight nuns who composed the convent agreed in the appointment of

Alice Langton. How long she presided, or who was her immediate successor is not apparent; but in 1476,

Margaret—who was then prioress, with the rest of the convent, presented to the church of Desborough. She died in a few years after, the Bishop of Lincoln in 1479, confirming the election

of Joan Chace to this office. From henceforward we meet with no other names till 1535, when at the time of the survey of its revenues

Margaret Loftus was prioress of this house. As it was suppressed shortly afterwards, this Lady, we apprehend, was the last who governed it. In 37th, of Hen. 8th, this Priory with the demesnes and all other lands belonging to it were granted to Henry Lee."

THE CHAPEL OF THE VIRGIN MARY.

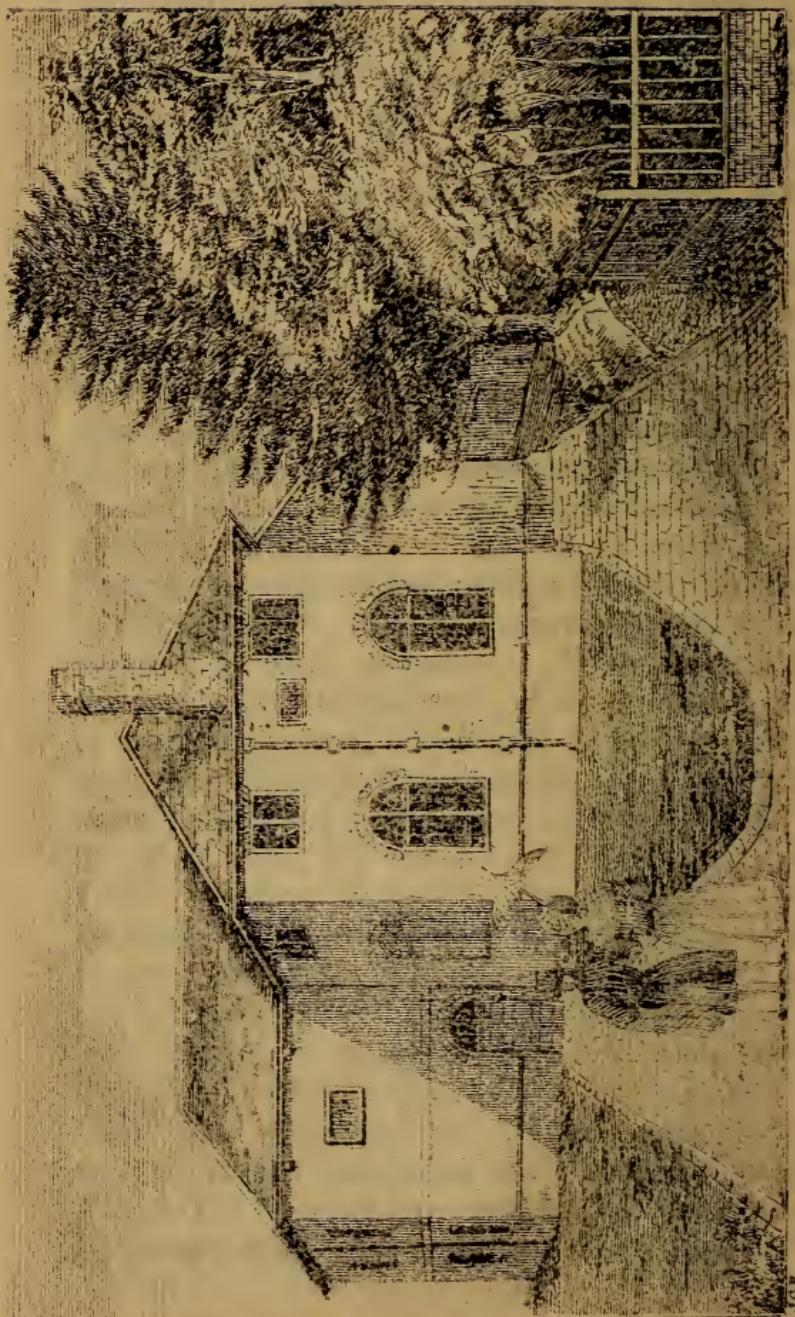
In the ordination of the vicarage of Rowell, St. Mary's Chapel in Rothwell, and the Chapel of Orton were decreed to belong to it: Moreover by an agreement bearing date 30th Oct, 1490, the Abbot and Monastic brethren of Cirencester obliged themselves to pay 20s yearly to a chaplain who should perform divine service in the said Chapel, which is now a dwelling house; and according to a decree of Queen Elizabeth, the residence of the Master of the Grammar School.

The Congregational, or Independent Chapel.

Two centuries have elapsed since the strife of Puritan and Cavalier found angry vent upon the field of battle, and though for the sake of peace and unity it is desirable as little allusion as possible should be made to that disastrous season, it is altogether impossible for an impartial writer to discharge his task with fidelity, unless he be permitted to avail himself of such recorded facts as have become the inheritance alike of history, and posterity. Moreover, it is as little feasible to study unbiased details of that sanguinary period, and yet fail to find much that is estimable in the self-denying and self-sacrificing principles of the

Puritan leaders: whilst upon the other hand, it is equally certain that the feeling which was at first one of religious enthusiasm only, was ultimately suffered to degenerate into one of dire revenge, whose reckless indulgence has stained indelibly the page of British history, with a Sovereign's blood. Time, which generally place human events in aspects differing from those in which they originally appeared, has not failed to exert its customary influence on a question, which, may now at least, be discussed with temperance. It has shewn us by the recent discovery of important, and unquestionable documents, that the first Charles, was by no means, the patriotic, frank, and honourable prince, his warm adherents ever believed him; and it is a great question whether the descendants of his loyal subjects, whose blood flowed in such profusion during that civil contest, would defend the integrity of the Monarch, with zeal correspondent with that evinced by their ancestors. With the season of those unhappy differences, their causes have also in a great measure departed; and never perhaps, since the glorious Reformation, was there a period more calculated to enhance in the opinion of all thinking men, the value of those dying words of Lord William Russell; uttered at the moment previous to surrendering his life upon an arena, the rancour of his enemies vainly strove to render one of ignominy: "*I wish all sincere Protestants may love one another, and not make way for Popery by their animosities.*" A very few years after the execution of Charles the first, the congregational covenant was entered into by the Protestant Dissenters resident in Rowell, and its neighbourhood:—It was dated anno Domini 1656,





Independent Chapel & Schools

Rowell

the subscribers thereunto being in number near thirty; to whom, Mr. John Beverly was pastor, John Ponder, and John Cooper, Elders, and John Fox, with Ralph Mun, Deacons.

The Mr. Beverly who became the first Pastor of this Church, had been a fellow of Trinity College Cambridge; that he was a most disinterested labourer in the field he had chosen, was shewn by his refusal to leave his flock, when tempted to do so by an offer of a living four times as valuable, made to him by Mr. Peters, on the recommendation of Colonel Read: and that he was also a very learned man is evidenced by his elegantly written, and well known tract, *De Independentismo*, against Hornbeck. After a portracted illness, he died on the 1st day of June, 1658, and the high esteem to which his literary labours had raised him among the Congregationalists, may be seen in the following letter of condolence, received by his afflicted congregation shortly after his decease.

“ The Church of Christ at Ferling, in Essex, to the Church of Christ which is at Rowel, in Northamptonshire; sendeth greeting in the name of Him who is your Lord, and our’s

Brethren, and Beloved,

The loss of your late Pastor we are condoling with you the more, as knowing it is not easily to be repaired. Great Britain, where (in both parts of this island) he did good service to his Master, will not afford us many John Beverly’s. We doubt not, but you’ll have your dependence the more upon the great Shepherd of the Sheep, and minding that promise, Isai. 40. 11. with other consolatory scriptures, will trust in him, who for a short season sent you that faithful

servant of His, that He will feed you, lead you, and provide for you; for what Provision is like His.' and who teacheth like Him.' Now, dear Brethren, we shall not call you off from hearing Him that speaketh from Heaven, if, next to many choice Scripture exhortations we earnestly desire you to remember, and hold fast, what you heard and received from Christ, speaking in this his precious Angel, while with you. Surely, his gracious sweet Conversation, his Humility and tears, his prayers, and preachings, are yet fresh in your memories. Oh let them never be forgotten! And may your moderation be known unto all men, as his was; let his zealous engagement against formality, be also your's. What now, beloved, will be a duty more incumbent on you than this, to abide by his doctrine; and holding close to the visible purity of church Matter and Membership, as of Church administrations, to be Cautions of entangling yourselves with those that associate for empty and shriveling formalities, (without any regard had to the true promoting of Communion of Saints,) which is a slurring of all Reformation Work. Finally, Brethren, that we may hold fast the form of sound words, and healing doctrine with you; and that we may live more out of ourselves, in the life of Christ, being acted more by the power of that Spirit, who is the Spirit of Judgment, and the Spirit of Burning, let there be, we intreat you, an Exchange of Prayers, a Return of Counsels, and a Highway of Communion, between you and us, as becometh Saints.

Signed in the name, and with the consent of the Church.

John Statham, Pastor.

For a period of four years the Members of this

Community were without a fixed preacher, and accustomed to attend the ministry of Mr. Browning, of Desborough: until indeed the famous Act of Conformity compelled that Minister (in company with very many others) to resign his living. Upon this the Congregationalists residing in Rowell invited him to settle among them; with which he complied. An unfinished exposition of Romans 5th, intended for the press, is all the literary labour he is supposed to have left, although for more than twenty years he continued to perform the duties of his office with singular zeal, and anxiety: having more than once suffered imprisonment in the County Goal of Northampton, as is shewn by letters written from thence to the people of his charge: He died Anno Domini 1685, and for four years the small congregation were again without a Pastor: In 1689 Mr. Richard Davis was chosen Minister, and during his presidency, one of those enthusiastic epidemics, occasionally seen in the present day, would appear to have broken out among his people; which is thus noticed by Maurice. "At home his comfort was great in the abundant success of the Gospel, in conversion, and edification; yet this comfort was allay'd with sore afflictions; whereof many lying reports were raised, and improved by the enemy, to the disadvantage of the cause of God. Several women belonging to the Church were afflicted with hysterical fits, whereby they were, while those fits lasted, incapable of any motion, or thrown into that which was irregular, and violent. Though there was nothing belonging to those fits, but what is common in the world, instances of the same kind being frequent, yet there were some attending circumstances which made the affliction great

They were often seiz'd with them in the public assemblies ; &c." The voluminous writings of this gentleman time will not allow of our examining; but a confession of Faith he published may be acceptable to members of his persuasion, and cannot be otherwise than interesting to those of the Established Church, although somewhat lengthy.

Congregational Confession of Faith.

The holy scriptures of the old and new Testament are the word of God, and the only rule of faith and Life.

There is but One only, the living and true God, who is a Spirit infinite, eternal and unchargeable in his Being, Wisdom, Power, Holiness, Goodness, and Truth. There are three persons in the Godhead, the Father, eternally begetting, the Son, eternally begotten of the Father, and the Holy Ghost eternally proceeding from the Father, and Son, the same in essence, equal in all the incommunicable and communicable Attributes of the divine Nature.

The Decrees of God are his eternal purpose according to the Council of his own will, whereby for his own glory, He hath foreordained whatsoever comes to pass; which Decrees he executes in the works of Creation and Providence.

The work of Creation is God's making all things of nothing, by the word of his Power, in the space of six days, and all very good; and after other creatures he created man, male and female, after His own Image, in Knowledge, Righteousness, Holiness, with Dominion over the Creatures. God's works of Providence are His most holy, wise, and powerful preserving and governing all

his creatures, and all their actions. When God created man he entered into a covenant of life with him, as the common head and representation of all mankind, upon condition of perfect obedience, forbidding him to eat of the tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, upon pain of death; which covenant our first parents being left to the freedom of their own will, broke, and so fell from the Estate wherein they were erected, by sinning against God; and all mankind, descending from Adam by ordinary generation, sinned in him, and fell with him in his first transgression.

The sinfulness of every man descending from Adam by ordinary generation, consists in the guilt of Adam's first sin, the want of original Righteousness and the corruption of his whole nature, which is commonly called original Sin, together with all actual sins whereby he is opposite to all good, and bent to all evil, and liable to God's wrath, the curse of the law, death, and all miseries spiritual, temporal, and eternal. The remainders of this original sinful nature, act even in the Saints, when their state is changed through Grace.

Christ Jesus the eternal Son of God, became Man, being conceiv'd in the womb of the Virgin Mary by the Holy Ghost, and thereby taking our nature upon him continueth to be God, and man, in two distinct natures and one person for ever. Our Lord Jesus Christ, both in his humbled and exalted state, executeth the office of a Prophet, and of a Priest, and of a King of His Church. Christ executes the office of a Prophet, in the times both of the old and new Testament, in revealing, by his word and spirit, the whole mind and will of God for man's salvation. Christ executeth the office of a Priest, in once offering up

himself a sacrifice without spot to God, to be a reconciliation for the sins of all them that shall be saved, and in making continual intercession for them, at the right hand of the Majesty on high. Christ, as our Redeemer, executeth the office of a King, in calling out of the world a people peculiar to himself, in ruling and defending them, and in restraining and conquering all his and their enemies.

The Covenant of grace was made with Christ as the second Adam, and in him with all the elect as his seed, and was made manifest by freely providing, and offering to sinners a Mediator, and life and salvation through him.

Those whom God effectually calleth, he also freely justifieth, not by infusing Righteousness into them, but by pardoning their sins, and by accounting and accepting the persons as righteous; not for anything wrought in them, done by them, but for Christ's sake alone; not by imputing faith itself nor any other Evangelical obedience unto them, as their Righteousness, but by imputing the obedience and satisfaction of Christ unto them; they receiving and resting on Him, and his righteousness, by faith, which faith they have not of themselves, it is the gift of God; and this faith is not a dead faith, but worketh by love, and is accompanied with all other saving grace.

Faith in the general, is a giving credit to the whole revealed will of God in his word, and upon his own Authority; but as it is a saving grace, it is a work of the spirit, whereby a sinner doth see and behold Christ in all his Excellencies, and is persuaded & enabled to look to him, to go forth from sin and self, to lay hold of Christ, and to rest and rely on Christ and his righteousness, for accept-

ance, with God and eternal salvation.

Effectual calling, is the powerful voice of the Son of God, by his Spirit accompanying his word, whereby a sinner is enabled to accept of Christ upon his own terms, according to the promise of the Gospel, therefore it relates to Faith.

Assurance, is not a bare conjectural and probable persuasion, but the intangible certainty of Faith, founded upon the testimony of the Spirit of Adoption, witnessing with our Spirits that we are the children of God; although many believers have not attained to this assurance, yet it is the duty of all to seek after it; and those that have attained may have it divers ways shaken and diminished, through sin and temptations.

The perseverance of the Saints, depends not upon their own free will, or inherent Grace already received, but upon the immutability of the Love of God in the decree of Election; the efficacy and merit of the intercession of Christ; the nature of the covenant of Grace; and the abiding of the Spirit of God. Although true believers cannot fall finally and totally, yet they may fall into grievous sins, and may continue in them for a while, whereby they grieve the Spirit, lessen their Comforts, wound their consciences, scandalize others, and do come under the rebuke of God's fatherly corrections, for their recovery and amendment.

Adoption, is an act of free grace of God, in and for His only Son Jesus Christ, whereby all those that are justified are received into the number of His children, have His name put upon them, the Spirit of His Son given unto them, are under His fatherly care and correction, admitted to all the liberties and privileges of the Sons of God

made Heirs of all the promises, and fellow-heirs with Christ in glory.

Sanctification, is the work of God's grace, whereby they, whom God has before the foundation of the world chosen to be holy, are in time, through the powerful operation of the Spirit, applying the death and resurrection of Christ unto them, renew'd in their whole man after the image of God; having the seeds of repentance, and of all other saving graces put into their hearts, and those Graces so stirred up, increased and strengthened, as that they more and more die unto sin, and rise up unto newness of life, in the lively actings, and exercises of faith.

True Gospel repentance, is a saving grace, wrought by the Spirit of God, whereby we are enabled, through believing on the Lord Jesus Christ for life and salvation, to turn from sin unto God.

Works done before Faith (however good in themselves,) yet are vain, fruitless, sinful, and not pleasing to God; and therefore can't make us any ways meet for the receiving of Grace. Good works are then only good when they are the fruits of faith, and they ought to be carefully maintained by Believers; not that they may thereby be justified, or continued in a justified state, but that they may glorify God, and answer the ends of their Redemption by Jesus Christ.

The moral law holds the elect during their unregeneracy, under its condemning force until they believe; and is unto all believers a rule for obedience, which they are enabled to conform unto by the power of God's grace.

The souls of believers, immediately after death, are made perfect in holiness, are receiv'd up to

heaven, and behold the face of God in light and glory. Their bodies in the mean time resting in the grave till the Resurrection, are then reunited to their Souls in perfect blessedness, and full enjoyment of God for ever.

God has appointed a day wherein he will judge the quick, and the dead in righteousness by Jesus Christ, to whom all power and judgment is given of the Father, for the glorifying his divine Mercy in the salvation of the elect; and of his divine justice in the eternal damnation of the wicked, and disobedient."

The author of the above Confession of Faith appears to have been called upon more than once to defend the orthodoxy of his principles, and in relating the circumstances, attending one of these examinations, the grim Puritan thus condescends to record a bon mot.

" In a neighbouring town, in his sentences he was put to the rack. there in his sentiments he was wronged and condemned, and there, in his name he was murdered. Mr. Haworth of Hartford, being providentially present, and seeing such inhuman proceedings, was pleased to call into question their authority, and cried out aloud, Quo jure, quo jure? They being startled, surprized, and for some time silenced, at this unexpected challenge of their power, after a while he that would be thought chief among them sneakingly answered, Nullo jure: Then reply'd Mr. Haworth it is In iuria.'

On the 11th. Sept. 1714, Mr. Davis died; leaving behind him several tracts, still much valued by the members of his persuasion; and the reputation of a learned, diligent, and successful Minister: He was succeeded by Mr. Matthias

Maurice, of Olney, to whom posterity is indebted for a publication issued in 1729, called *Monuments of Mercy*, or some of the distinguishing favours of Christ to his Congregational Church at Rowell; and which is the authority for most of the information recorded in this account of the large and respectable body of Independents now residing in Rowell. Mr. Maurice continued in possession of his charge upwards of twenty four years; and was succeeded in 1740, by Mr. Sanderson, who died after a residence of seven years in Rowell. His place was filled in 1748 by Mr. Greyson, of whom it is chiefly remarkable that his preliminary examination was conducted by the eminent Dr. Doddridge. In the latter part of his life he was assisted, and ultimately succeeded, by M^r. John Wood, who resigned after a residence of twenty years, on the 25th March, 1811. The pastorate of this Chapel next devolved upon the Revd W. Scott, who, after twenty years of eminently successful labour, of which a grateful recollection still exists among his former people, accepted the Tutorship of Airedale College, Yorkshire. He was succeeded in 1837, by Mr. Gallsworthy, who resigned his charge in 1841, to the Revd. R. Jessop, the present respected Pastor of the Congregationalists.

The Chapel was erected in 1735, and is calculated to accommodate one thousand persons. It contains two mortuary inscriptions only; below the pulpit,

Here
lieth interr'd the
Body of the Revd.
Mr. Matthias Maurice.

who departed this life
Sept. 1. 1738. aged 51.
As unknown.

Here lies also Elizabeth,
his wife, who died the
8th October, 1771, Aged 73.

In front of the pulpit, and nearly in the centre of the Chapel, is the communion table, somewhat ancient, and of massive construction. In the vestry is a good library, containing several ancient and valuable works; the principal of which, is a fine black letter copy of Fox, in three volumes folio. Annexed to the Chapel are commodious Sunday Schools; and closely adjoining, the minister's house, and stabling for the accommodation of members of the congregation, residing at a distance. On the left of the principal entrance is the graveyard, containing, at present, but few memorials with the exception of the following:

Sacred
to the memory of
Elizabeth Horam,
who died 27th March, 1840.

Aged 72.

N.B. This was the first corpse
interr'd in this burial ground.

In connection with this religious body is the British School, an establishment well conducted, and numerously attended; an auxiliary Bible Society; and an association for the circulation of tracts of a religious character.

WESLEYAN METHODISTS.

The members constituting this small congregation, appear to have first associated for the pur-

pose of religious worship, in the year 1825. In 1833, a neat Chapel was erected by them, in the Lady-well lane; to which a small burying ground is attached, although up to the present date no interment has taken place therein: The number of the Congregation is about 150, and the number of Children attending the Sabbath School exceeds 50.

THE MANOR OF ROWELL.

In referring so copiously as will be necessary in the course of this work, to that valuable Survey, known as Domesday Book; it may not be altogether superfluous to remind the reader, briefly, of the state of the country, and its mixed population of victors, and vanquished, at the period of its compilation. The invincible Norman with wise policy, made little or no sudden alteration in the internal division, or government, of his newly acquired territory. Florence of Worcester, thus enumerates the motives which induced William the first, about the year 1080, to appoint a commission, consisting of Henry de Ferrieres, Walter Giffard, Adam, brother of Eudes the Seneschal, Remi Bishop of Lincoln, with several officers of the Exchequer; who were directed to visit personally and carefully report the condition of the subdued country;—and the mutations of property consequent upon the conquest.

“ He wished to know into what hands, through the whole extent of the country, the manors of the Saxons had passed; how many Saxons still kept their inheritances, by virtue of private treaties concluded with himself, or with his barons; how many acres of land there were in each rural domain; what number of acres sufficed for the

maintenance of a man at arms, and how many men at arms there were in each county, or shire of England, &c., &c."

This Inquisition of Territory, which extended over six years, resulted in the production of that accurate record Domesday book.

As it is my purpose to give such extracts from this compilation, and any documents of a similar character, which may refer to the various parishes now comprised within the hundred of Rowell, a short glossary of some of the terms peculiar to the Anglo Saxon era, may materially assist their perusal, and will be given in an appendix.

DOMESDAY BOOK. TRANSLATION.

Rex tenet Rodewelle, et
Overtone in Rodewelle
Hund. Ibi sunt viii
Hidæ et ii part.
Terra est XL Carveat,
in dño sunt iv Carveat
et dimid. Ibi molinum
de ix solid, et iv den;
et viii acreo *prati*
Huic Manorio pertinent
hæc Membra

Lodintone
Clendone
Draughtone
Arningvorde
Dereburg
Keilmerse
Oxendone
Clipesstone
Cranesleg
Burtone

Terra est xix Carveat
inter totum. Ibi sunt XL vii
Sochamanui habentes xviii

The King holds Rowell and
Orton in Rowell Hundred.
There are 8 hides and 2
parts.

The land is 40 Carvates,
of which, $4\frac{1}{2}$ are in
demesne. There is a Mill
value 9 shillings & 4 pence;
and 8 acres of meadow land
To this Manor belong
these Members.

Loddington
Glendon
Draughton
Arthingworth
Desborough
Kelmarsh
Oxendon
Clipston
Crausley
Broughton

The land on the whole is
nineteen Carvates—There
are 47 Soemen, having 18

Carucatas, Hoc
Manerium Rodewelle cum
appendicibus tempore Regis
Edvardi, valuit xxx libras,
modo L libras.

Carvates. This Manor of
Rowell with its appendages
in the time of King Edward
(Confessor,) was worth £30
now 50 pounds.

Such nearly eight centuries since was the extent of the Manor of Rowell, then held by the King in person. So far as with any degree of accuracy they could be indicated, we have already traced its various transmissions from the eleventh, to the seventeenth century, when we find it purchased from the Crown by Edward Hill Esqe. as cursorily mentioned at page 5. This gentleman was descended from an ancient family, which settled here in the reign of James 1st, having originally been located in Somersetshire, as appears from the annexed.

PEDIGREE.

Sir John Hill of Houndsden

Somerset, ob 1341

Martin Hill, 12th in

descent from Sir John—

— a daughter of Lord
Willoughby,

Roger Hill temp. Hen. 6—

Francis Hill

John Hill

— Susan, d of E.
Lamb Esq. Essex.

Edward Hill

who in the reign of James

1st purchased the manor of Rowell, including those known as Saunders and Buckingham, with all royalties, free warren, (i.e. right of killing and taking game upon all lands within the Hundred) —

Edward Hill, born at Higham Ferrers 1635. died at Rowell, Aug. 1, 1705. —

— Susan d. of John Maunsell, Esqr. Thorpe Malsor.

Nathaniel Hill

— Susan d. of Stephen Loddington, Esq.

George Hill, King's

Ancient Sergt. at law. — Ann Barbara Medlycott, heiress of Cottingham:

And had issue,

1st. Anne, married Thos. Cecil Maunsell of Thorpe Malsor, Esq. who died before her father; and 2nd. Barbara, his sole heiress, married the Honble. William Cockayne, of Rushton Hall. From the devisees in Trust of this lady, (to whose direct issue the precedence of Viscount's children

was granted by William 4th.) the Manor of Rowell collectively, was purchased by her son-in-law Thomas P. Maunsell Esq. M. P. &c., &c., of Thorpe Malsor, present owner of the property, and Lord of the Manor, and Hundred.—

It is much to be regretted that the attainable information respecting this old family, in which the Manor of Rowell was vested for some generations and several of whose members were eminently distinguished in their several professions, should be so imperfect, as it unfortunately is.—An old document recites the heiresses they had the fortune to obtain, as follows.

Petronilla d and h of Hugh le Despencer temp.
Hen. 3rd.

Johanna d of John Savage — Edwd. 3rd.

Elizabeth de Hesthull — Hen. 4th.

Isabella, d, and h, of Sir T. Fitchett, Spraxton,
Somerset,

Johan, — of W. Bannister, Esqre.

Celil — T. Sturton, Esqre.

Dorothy — J. Hannock, Esqr. Cornwall,

Lucy — Sir P. Scutleigh,

Isabella — Sir Penrice, Penrice,

Susan — E. Lamb† Esqr.

Susan — I. Loddington, Esqre. Lince.

Ann Barbara — T. Medlycott Esq. Cottingham.

THE MARKET HOUSE.

Situated in the centre of the town, this incom-

† This Lady's uncle, Sir John Lambe Kt. of Troston Co. Suffolk, left her his estates, and two Coats of Arms paternal, and conceded. First Sa-On a Fess betw 3 Cinque foils Erminois two Mullets Vert. Second, granted by Charles 1st. Erm-A lion ramp. Sa—

The Hundred Court is held annually, on Thursday in Easter week, at the Sun Inn, Rowell

plete but fine vestige of the Sixteenth Century, remains an elegant monument of the interest taken in the prosperity of the inhabitants of Rowell by the pious and accomplished Sir Thomas Tresham, of Rushton Hall. The fatality which attended most of his architectural undertakings is most remarkable ; One only, it is supposed, attained completion; viz. the Triangular lodge at Rushton, a building well worth the antiquary's examination.

The erection of the town hall at Rowell, was proceeding, if not commenced, in the year 1577 ; as we learn from the subjoined inscription, sculptured on the frieze.

*THOME TRESAMI MILITIS FVIT HOC
OPUS IN GRATIAM DULCIS PATRIÆ
FECIT SUÆ TRIBUSQUE NORTHAMPTON-
IÆ VELMAXIME HUJUSQUE VICINI SIBI
PAGI. NIHIL PRÆTER BONUM COM-
MUNE QUÆSIVIT NIHIL PRÆTER DECUS
PERENNE AMICORUM. MALE QUI
INTERPRETATUR DIGNUS HAUD TANTO
EST BONO. Ao. DOMINI MILLESIMO
QUINGENTESIMO SEPTUAGESIMO SEP-
TIMO.*

Around the Cornice, and in various other situations are the Arms of the County Gentlemen at the period of its erection :—They are not very correctly Carved, but are intended for the families below mentioned.

| NAMES. | ARMS. |
|------------|--|
| 1 Norwich, | Per pale Gu and Az. a lion ramp Erm. |
| 2 Grey, | Barry of six Ar and Az, In chief 3 Torteaux. |

| NAMES. | ARMS. |
|---------------------|---|
| 3 Stanley, | On a Bend Az. 3 Stags heads cabossed Or. |
| 4 Malory, | Or, a lion ramp. Gu. |
| 5 Russell, | Arg. a lion ramp Gu. on a chief Sa, 3 Escallops of the first. |
| 6 Devereux, | Gu, a fess Or. in chief 3 Bezants. |
| 7 Touch, | Gu, twelve Bezants, a Canton Erm. |
| 8 Mordaunt, | Arg. a chev betw 3 Estoiles Sa. |
| 9 Compton, | Sa. a lion passt. guardt. Or, betw 3 Helmets Arg. |
| 10 <i>Unknown</i> , | A Fess Erm, betw six lions heads erased. |
| 11 Mildmay, | Per Fess nebulee Ar & Sa. 3 Greyhound's heads Couped Cchd. |
| 12 Hatton, | Or. a Chev Erm, betw 3 Garbs Or. |
| 13 Tresham, | Per Saltire, Arg and Sa, 8 trefoils slipped, Vert. |
| 14 Lane, | Per Pale Az and Gu. 3 Saltiers Arg. |
| 15 Hastings, | Or, a Maunch Gu a Crescent of cadency. |
| 16 <i>Unknown</i> , | Twelve Escallops a Cant Erm Sa on a Cross engr Or, nine Ogresses; a Crescent for Cadency. |
| 17 Greville, | On a chief dancette 2 Crescents. |
| 18 <i>Unknown</i> , | |

| NAMES. | ARMS. |
|----------------|---|
| 19 Danvers, | Arg. on a Bend Gu. 3 Martlets Or. |
| 20 Griffin, | Arg. a Griffin segreant Sa. |
| 21 Statford, | Or a chev. Gu. a bend Erm. |
| 22 Dudley, | Or. two Lioncels passt. Az. |
| 23 Brisco | Arg. 3 greyhounds courant. in pale, Sa |
| 24 Segrave, | Arg. a lion. ramp. Sa Ducally crowned Or. |
| 25 Wake, | Arg. 2 Bars Gu. in chief 3 Torteaux |
| 26 Tresham, | As No. 13. |
| 27 Aylesbury, | Or. a Cross Arg. a crescent of cadency. |
| 28 Kynnesman, | Per Pale 3 Saltiers cchd. |
| 29 Saunders, | Per Chev. Arg. and Sa. 3 Elephants heads erased cchd. |
| 30 Willoughby, | Or. 2 Bars Gu. charged with 3 Water Bougets of the field. |
| 31 Kirkham, | Arg. On a Fess Gu. 3 Bezants. |
| 32 Fermor, | Gu. a Fess Sa charged with 3 Anchors Or. betw. 3 lion's heads erased. |
| 33 Cave, | Az. Fretty Arg. |
| 34 Tanfield. | Arg. 2 Chevronels betw. 3 Martlets Sa. |
| 35 Woodhuil. | Sa. 3 crescents Or. |
| 36 Gorges, | Erm. a Fess betw 3 Cinque-foils, Gu. |
| 37 Osborn, | Quarterly Az. & Erm. over all a Cross engr. Or. |

| NAMES. | ARMS. |
|-----------------|---|
| 38 Throckmorton | Gu. on a chev. Ar. 3 Bars gemelles Sa. |
| 39 Morgan, | Ar. On a Bend engr. Sa. 3 Cinquefoils of the 1st. in chief a cross flory betw. 2 Fleur de lis |
| 40 Burnaby, | Ar. 2 Bars Gu. in chief a lion passt. guardt. |
| 41 Chauncy, | Or. 3 Chevronels engr Gu. |
| 42 Lewnor, | Az. 3 Chevronels Arg. A Crescent of cadency |
| 43 Lynne, | Arg. a demi lion ramp. Gu. within a Bord S1. bezantee. |
| 44 Wingfield, | Arg. On a bend cotised, Gu. 2 pairs of wings of the field. a Crescent of cadency. |
| 45 Unknown, | On a chev. a crescent, an annulet for cadency. |
| 46 Mulso, | Erm. on a Bend S1. 3 Goat's heads erased Ar. |
| 47 Dyve, | Gu. a Fess dancettee Or. betw 3 Escallops, Erm. |
| 48 Andrew, | Gu. A Saltier voided Or. |
| 49 Tyringham, | Arg. A Saltier engrailed Ar. |
| 50 Elmes, | Erm. two bars Sa. each charged with 3 elm leaves Or. |
| 51 Malory, | Or. a lion ramp. Gu. collared of the first, |
| 52 Cope, | Or. on a Chev. betw. 3 roses Arg. as many Fleur de lis of the field. |

| NAMES. | ARMS. |
|--------------------|--|
| 53 Lee, | Ar. a fesse betw. three crescents Sa. |
| 54 Mauntell, | A Cross eng. betw. 4 Martlets |
| 55 Dormer, | Arg. 10 Billets Or; on a chief of the second a demi Lion ramp. issuant Sa. |
| 56 Pemberton, | Ar. a Chev. vert. betw. 3 well buckets Sa. |
| 57 Hartwell, | Sa. a Hants head cabossed Ar. betw. the attires a Cross formee Or. |
| 58 Isham, | Gu. a fess wavy, in chief three piles also wavy Ar. |
| 59 Brook, | Or. on Fess Az. 3 Escallops of the field, |
| 60 Dalyson, | Gu. 3 Crescents Or. a Cant Erm. |
| 61 Pulton, | A Fess betw. 3 Estoiles. |
| 62 <i>Unknown.</i> | An Eagle displayed betw 3 Fleur de lis. |
| 63 ——— | Blank. |
| 64 Vere, | Quarterly Gu. and Or. in the 1st. Quarter a mullet Arg. |
| 65 Tresham, | As No. 26. |
| 66 Leycester, | Arg. a fess engr. fretty of the field and Gu. betw 3 Fleur de lis. |
| 67 Purefoy, | Az. 3 Piles meeting in in base Or. On a Cant Gu. a mullet Arg. |
| 68 Apreece, | Sa. 3 Pheons Arg. |
| 69 Britaine, | Gu. a Saltier betw 4 Fleur de lis. Or. |

| NAMES. | ARMS. |
|---------------|--|
| 70 Yelverton, | Arg. 3 Lioncels ramp. guard Gu. On a chief of the 2nd. a mullet of the 1st. |
| 71 Dudley, | Or. A Lion ramp guardt. Vert. In the dext chief point a mullet. |
| 72 Vavasor, | Or. a Fess daucettee Sa. In the dext chief point a Mullet. |
| 73 Randes, | Ar. on a Bend Ar. 3 Mascles Gu. In sinist chief point a Crescent |
| 74 Catelyn, | Per Chev. Az. & Or. 3 cats passt. guardt. cched. |
| 75 Humphrey, | Gu. On a Cross bottonnee Arg. 5 Pellets; at each extremity 3 Escallops of the field. |
| 76 Butler, | A chev. Arg. betw. 3 cups covered Or. a mullet for diff. |
| 77 Villiers, | Or. On a Cross Gu. 5 Escal- lops Or. |
| 78 Saunders, | See No. 29. |
| 79 Saul, | See No 14. |
| 80 Creise, | Ar. A Lion ramp guard Ar |
| 81 Griffin, | See No. 20 |
| 82 Osborn, | See No. 37. |
| 83 Haslewood, | Arg. on a chev. gu. betw 3 Owls Sa. as many Loz- enges Erm. on a chief Az. 3 Hazel branches Or. |

| NAMES. | ARMS. |
|---------------|--|
| 84 Spencer, | Gu. a Fess Erm. betw 6 griffins heads erased Or. |
| 85 Kynnesman, | See. No. 28. |
| 86 Dalyson, | See No. 60. |
| 87 Villiers, | See No. 77. |
| 88 Pulton, | See No. 61. |
| 89 Tresham, | impaling Throckmorton. |
| 90 Ragsdale, | A Pelican vulning herself, betw, 3 Fleur de lis. |

However ornamental, commodious, and well adapted to the ends for which it was intended, viz. Market Hall, and Sessions House, still the building has no pretension whatever to architectural elegance. The market Hall, or basement story is an open area, 18 yards long by 10 in width, entered by light semicircular archways. The upper story sessions, or public room, would have been, if completed, a fine apartment, having two large fire places, lighted by six Elizabethan windows, with ansoms and mullions, of wrought stone. The numbers were laid, though they have long since disappeared; and it is conjectured that the third story (intended to complete the Edifice) was the residence of the keeper of the building. The staircase has been converted into a gaol, or lock-up, for the temporary custody of offenders. In 1727, a fund was raised for the purpose of repairing the foundations, and the surplus was applied to the graving of a fine view of the building, and an accompanying plate, containing an outline of the heraldic sculptures, both of which are to be seen

in Mr. Bakers magnificent History of this County, it is again evincing strong symptous of dilapidation and unless some conservative feeling is shewn by the families particulary interested in its silent record of the gentle blood of their ancestors, it is not improbable that the present generation may witness its decay beyond all power of reparation.

JESUS' HOSPITAL.

This Excellent Charity was founded in the reign of Queen Elizabeth by Owen Ragsdale, of whom the following brief account was written by his Executor, and one of the first Trustees of his Hospital.

THE LIFE OF.

Owen Ragsdal Gent, Founder of Jesus Hospital in Rowell, written in Latin by Ferdinando Pulton, Gent; His Executor, and translated into English by the Reverend Mr. J. Cattell, Vicar.

Owen Ragsdal, son of Henry Ragsdal, of Knyton, in the County of Nottingham, Gent. and Elizabeth his wife.

When he was but a youth, and being of a good genius, and with respect to his age, very well instructed in the rudiments of good literature, was chosen scholar of Magdalen College, in Oxford, by the assistance of his uncle, Owen Oglethorpe, who then was President of the said College, but afterward made Bishop of Carlisle. There for some time he plied his studies to very good purpose even till he went out Bachelor of Arts As soon as he left the University, for the sake of his ingenuity, had

adorned him with that degree, the Bishop then dying, the inhabitants of Rowell desired him to come to them; there with great pains and happy success, he instructed the youth in learning, and good Manners; and after he had spent some years in teaching school, which he performed with great applause, for the improvement of his own learning he returned again to Oxford; and in Lincoln College betook himself to the study of the Civil Law. While he was there a good estate fell to him by inheritance, in Yorkshire, by the death of his uncle, Andrew Oglethorpe, who died without issue. A second time he is called from his academical studies, to take possession of the same. Not long after he returned to Rowell, and married Mary, widow of Richard Hamden, Esq., daughter of Edward Osborn, of Kelmarsh, Esq., a virtuous and frugal woman; and with a wife, God gave him plenty of all things. He sold his estate in Yorkshire, and purchased in Northamptonshire. From that time he was counted by those among whom he lived, a man of great authority and esteem, so that he was almost constantly employed in managing, and making up matters of weight and moment; all which he undertook so prudently and managed so justly, and faithfully, that he procured himself the love and commendation of all ranks, and sorts of men. In the abundance of wealth which God gave, he retained a humble, and grateful mind toward God; having this expression often in his writings and discourse.

“He that is mighty, hath done great things for me.”

It was his custom to be hospitable according

to his Estate ; to help the poor with his substance, and direct the rich by his counsel ; to cherish and preserve peace and concord, and readily lay hold on every occasion whereby he might benefit others, in the Common wealth of great persons. He restored the Market to Rowell, which had failed and was lost, and built a market house at his own expence. He repaired, adorned, and endowed the Grammar School ; gave a sum of money towards the repair of the parish church. He, having no children of his own, by his last will adopted poor for his sons and heirs ; and ordered an Hospital to be built for them, and that part of his wealth which remained, he gave to his wife, his kindred and friends, and divers pious uses. He dyed Dec. the 1st. A.D. 1591, in ye 55th year of his age."

The Gentlemen by the will of Owen Ragsdale appointed as Trustees, were, An. 38 Eliz. incorporated by Letters Patent, under the denomination of Governors of Jesus Hospital, Rowel, and a few years afterward proceeded to enact a Code of Regulations for the discipline and management of the Charity, of which a brief abstract is annexed hereto.

Preamble.

Statutes, Rules, and Orders, concerning the Nomination, Election, Government, Maintenance, Direction, Punishment, Expulsion, and Removing of the particular bodies, part of the Corporation of or resident in, or resorting unto Jesus Hospital, in Rowel, in the County of Northampton, made and agreed upon by Thomas Tresham, George

Gascoign, Ferdinando Pulton, and Oliver Farrer Esquires: being the now survivors of those that in the Letters patent of our late sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth bearing date the 29th day of June in the 38th year of her reign, be named and appointed to be the first Governors of the goods, possessions, and revenues of the said Hospital, and thereby also authorized to make and ordain Statutes, Rules, and Orders for the same.

1st.

A Principal to be elected by the Governors or a majority of them.

2nd.

Relates to the eligibility of the Principal; must be 40 years of age at least; of good name and credit aforetime; and never indicted for any treasonable or felonious crime, nor vehemently suspected of the same; of good health, and unmarried.

3rd.

Expulsion of Principal.

For any offence previously enumerated, marrying, embezzling Hospital Funds.

4th.

No person to be eligible as Principal having a Freehold or Copyhold Estate of greater annual value than £4. or having an annuity Exceeding 20 Nobles per annum, or having personal property exceeding one hundred Markes in value unless such party previous to his election shall

5th.
Duties of the
Principal.

surrender to the governors one third of such his Estate.

These, which formerly extended to the collection of rents, and their disbursement to the purposes of the charity ; as to the personal supervision of the Inmates of the Hospital are now much curtailed. An agent having been appointed at a fixed salary on the 2nd. Feb. 1841. for management of the Estates. The duties now required from the Principal are as follow. To keep a Register of the Governors Assistants, Principal and Inmates of the Hospital, with the dates of their appointment, admission and decease. To give notice in a form duly prescribed of any vacancy by death, or expulsion. To see that the statutes enacted by the governors be duly enforced, or give notice of their infringement. To keep the Hospital in good repair, apartments therein clean and wholesome. To keep the keys of the Gates, and cause them to be shut every night at nine of the Clock, and opened at four o'clock in the morning, if it be day otherwise not until day-light; without reasonable and special cause. To be himself continually resident at the Hospital, not being absent more than one day in a

month without special licence of
of the Governors.

6th.
Principals
Deputy.

During the unavoidable absence
of the Principal, his deputy to be
appointed by the Governor from
among the poor inmates.

7th.
Death of the
Principal

On the death, resignation, or
expulsion of the Principal, the old-
est inmate of the Hospital (by elec-
tion) to look up and seize with all
conveniences speed all monies, goods,
and papers in the custody of the
deceased, and inform the governors
of the death of the said Principal.

8th.
Government
During the
interval be-
tween the
death of one
and the elec-
tion of an-
other Prin-
cipal.

During the time which shall
elapse from the death of one Prin-
cipal and the entering upon residence
of his successor, the duties to be
performed by the senior, elected
Inmate.

9th.
Election of
Inmates

Governors to nominate in rotation
within thirty days of receiving notice
of vacancy.

10th.
Eligibility
of Inmates.

Must have lived in good repute
afore-time; free from dangerous and
infectious disease; unmarried. Not
less than forty years of age; not
blind; nor so lame as to be unable to

walk to church. Nor an Idiot, Lunatic, or one bestraited of his wits; must have continually resided in one of these three hundreds viz. Rothwell, Orlingbury, or Corby, for the space of three years at least before his admission, excepting only kinsmen of the Founder, who shall ever be eligible for admission, wheresoever their residence.

Stipend of
the Principal

Originally five pounds per an. with residence, &c; but now raised to £35 per an. with commodious house, garden, &c.

Of the poor
Inmates.

Six shillings per week, with lodgings coals, garden, &c.

14th.
Attendance
at Church.

The Principal, Poor, and Sick Men, shall every Sunday, Holiday, and Festival day throughout the year, assemble themselves in the said Hospital, and then go to the Church together; the Principal going before and the poor and sick men following after, two, and two, in orderly, and decent manner; all attired in their best apparel, and as near as may be in one uniform fashion; of gowns; or cloak, and caps. And in like manner there sit as near together as they may, quietly and devoutly all the Service time: And at the end of Service shall return from the church together in order as aforesaid.

15th.
Care of
the Founder's
tomb.

The Principal of the said Hospital and every of the said poor and sick men, shall have special care and regard, that the tomb in Rowell church of Owen Ragsdale, Esquire deceased, Founder of the said Hospital, and the epitaphs, superscriptions, walls, pavements, and other things thereunto annexed, be kept whole, safe, bright, and clean: and if any thing therein shall hereafter be decayed, impaired, defaced, or blemished, the Principal shall cause the same presently to be repaired, at the charge of the said Hospital, &c.

16th.
Employment
of the inmates

Every poor and sick man remaining within the said Hospital shall according to his age, health, and strength, on the working days, do some labour or work for and towards the increase of his living, and by no means shall give himself to idleness, drunkenness, vagrant life, or begging.

17th.
Residence of
Inmates.

No poor man admitted into this Hospital, to lie forth there of any night without license of the Governors, nor with such leave more than four days in one month, or twenty days in one year. Neither is any stranger not being of the Corporation to be suffered to lodge in the said house above one night in a quarter of a year.

18th.
Injuring the
Hospital or
Appurten-
ances there-
unto.

19th.
Reading of
the Statutes

20th.
Disposal of
Goods of the
Inmates.

Ordains that such damage or in-
jury shall be repaired as speedily
as may be convenient, at the ex-
pence of the party causing it.

The Statutes to be for ever here-
after read openly and distinctly,
twice annually in the chamber of
the Principal and in the presence
of the poor men, on the feast day of
St. Michael the Archangel, and on
the feast day of the Annunciation
of the blessed Virgin Mary at
two o'clock, P.M.

On admission of each inmate,
he is to resign all his goods to the
use of the Hospital, after his
decease; receiving therein a life in-
terest only.

In 1685 the interests of this Charity were prin-
cipally committed to

The Right Hon. Visct. Cullen

Sir Roger Norwich

and Sir Lewis Palmer, Barts.

In 1703 provision was made for an uniformity
in the dress of the inmates by

Sir Justinian Isham,

Sir Erasmus Norwich,

and Sir Lewis Palmer, Barts.

In 1765, the vice of drunkenness appears to have required particular controul, as we find a decree to the following import—" Every man belonging to this Society, getting drunk, shall be fined 2s. 6d. for each offence ; and 3s. more if he be led home ; sixpence to be paid out of it to those who conduct him.



Jesus Hospital, Rothwell.

A gratifying proof of the effectual administration of the Founder's estate was afforded in the year 1835 ; when his benevolent intentions were extended, by an order for the admission of two additional pensioners. This order was signed by

H 3.

Sir Justinian Isham,

Sir J. H. Palmer, Bart,

T. P. Maunsell,

and J. C Rose, Esq^{tes.}

At the present date (1849) the Governing Corporation is constituted as follows.

Governors (1849.)

Sir J. Palmer, Bart. Carlton,

T. P. Maunsell, Esq. M.P Thorpe Malsor,
Allen Young, Esq. Orlingbury,

Sir A. De Capel Broke, Bart. Great Oakley
Geoffrey Palmer Esq Carlton.

with a body of assistants, from whom, in the event of the death or resignation of a Governor, his place is supplied.

Assistants (1849.)

W. S. Rose, Esq. Cransley,

W. T. Maunsell, Esq. Thorpe Malsor

Allen Young, Jun. Esq. Orlingbury,

W. De Capel Broke, Esq. Harborough,

The Revd. G. E. Maunsell, Thorpe Rectory

THE FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

The foundation of this Institution may very fairly be considered among the earliest fruits of the Reformation. The monastic and conventional establishments having been suppressed in the reign of Henry 8th, a portion of their revenues were next appropriated to the endowment of Churches, and Schools; and there is little doubt that the small

chapel of St. Mary, which the reduced population of the town no longer required, was converted to a secular use, and became the Grammar School. Of this indeed we have positive evidence, as it was certified that in the 2nd year of Edw. 6th, the chapel was thus employed; and that in addition to its original endowment there was given by divers unknown persons in land and tenements £4. 2s. 9d.; out of which was deducted 13s. 8d., and to the poor 4s. 2d.

In 1684 (24 Chas. 2nd.) the Commissioners for the inspection of Charities investigated the condition of the Rowell Grammar School, revised the list of Trustees, filled up such vacancies as had occurred by death or otherwise, and placed the Charity on an efficient footing. The interval which has since elapsed has however been sufficient to reduce it to more than even its pristine condition of inutility, and neglect. A miserable show of education of the most elementary character is kept up; but for all really practical purposes the intent of the foundation is at present altogether lost sight of. A subscription has been raised, and measures taken for restoring the perverted funds to the accomplishment of the original object; but owing to the adoption of certain injudicious and offensive measures the attempt has been deprived of powerful aid which would otherwise no doubt have willingly been afforded towards effecting so laudable an object.

The Charity is at present we believe under examination in the Court of Chancery; the issue of which it is fervently to be hoped will result in the restoration of its advantages to the youth of the

town. On the scite of St. Mary's Chapel stands a decayed house used as the residence of the master, and his place of instruction, but no trace of the original edifice now remains.

Other Charities in Rowell, are thus given in "Whellan's History of Northamptonshire,"

| A.D. | Donor. | object | anl. | value |
|------|------------------------|------------------------------|------|-------|
| 1726 | Mrs. Mary Maunsell, | School .. | 29 | 4 2 |
| 1590 | Owen Ragsdale.. | Jesus Hospl. | 431 | 0 0 |
| | Hunt's Charity.. | Poor | 36 | 10 0 |
| 1728 | Mrs. Agnes Hill | Six Widows | 28 | 0 0 |
| 1727 | Cooper (rent) .. | Bread to poor | 3 | 0 0 |
| | Revd. Jos. Bentham | ditto | " | 10 " |
| | Poor's Land | ditto | 8 | 0 0 |
| 1714 | T. Ponder | Six Widows | 6 | 2 6 |
| 1730 | Saml. Tebbutt(rent) | 6 Bibles to poor Children | 1 | 10 0 |
| 1653 | R. Andrews Esq. (£160) | Poor | | Lost |

APPENDIX.

Chancel—p. 12, et seq.

During the passage of the preceding sheets through the press, the contemplated repairs of the Chancel have been carried out with infinite judgment and unbounded liberality, such of the hatchments as would admit of reparation have been re-varnished, the tattered cloth renewed, the escutcheons themselves replaced upon the Chancel walls, which have been thoroughly cleansed from plaster, and altogether the contrast between the pure simplicity of ancient art, in the Chancel, and the incongruous mode of restoration adopted a few years since in the body of the church, is a strong proof of the rapidity with which correct principles,

of Church Architecture are gaining ground among us.

The following inscriptions have been brought to light, during the restoration of this portion of the sacred building :—

Here lyeth ye body of Elizabeth

Lodington, relict of Stephen Lodington,
of Lincoln, Gent, She was of ye eminently pious
Family of Harriss, of Kirton, near Boston,

in the County of Lincoln,

God gave to her father, Robert Harriss, Gent,
whose only daughter and heir she was, a truly
wise and understanding heart, to consider ye

Poor, their various wants, and sufferings,
Familys, and Persons, Widows, and Fatherless
especially.

Many he prevented from povertie, many he
recovered out of it, some to a flourishing state.
He freely lent, freely gave, as need required.
Goods, Cattle, Monie, sometimes large sums,
and even land to many, for lives :

To ye Chūrch for ever.

The lost and benighted Travailers he sought
and sav'd
when almost dying, yet feared not ye cold that
brought his own death whilst directing 300
men stopping a seabreach to save his country
from Invindation

His funeral text, chosen by the—

“ The blessing of him that was ready to
perish came upon me, and I caused the widow's
heart to sing for joy — 29 — 13

WILLIAM DE ROTHWELLE p 3. 14.

The passage at page 3, in which an allusion to the death of this priest will be found, is liable to misconstruction: The *date* of his decease is not engraven on the brass, but it is believed on the authority of the Vicarial roll to have occurred at the time specified. Since the brief notice of the brass and epitaph at page 14 was written, the singularly learned work of the Rev. C. H. Hartshorne, a Fellow of the Antiquarian Society, and Rector of Cogenhoe, in this county, on Sepulchral Monument has been placed in my hands; and it would be an act of injustice to its accomplished Author, to abbreviate his notice of the monumental record under discussion. It will be seen there is a very material difference between the documents cited by this Gentleman and others of probably equal authenticity.

" The earliest (brass) in Northamptonshire, is that of Laurence Seymour, Rector of Higham Ferrers (1339). That to William de Rothwell, at Rothwell, who died Archdeacon of Essex in 1361, comes next. He was instituted incumbent of the Vicarage of Rothwell about the year 1320, and successively became Archdeacon of Essex and Prebendary of Croprych Ferring and Yalmeton, (Hallaughton?) and Confessor to the King, which indicates that he was a person of importance. The style of art is rude, and so far as execution and design are concerned, it is a work assignable to the above period. The *Scripture* underneath,

as the inscription was called, is incised in two parallel columns.

On the right side it is thus : ' Nunc Xte te peto. Misere queso qui venisti redime p'ditum noli dapanare me tuu redeptu.' On the left side : ' † Pur l'aime William de Rothewelle qui cy est sepule jadis Erchidakn de Essex, Provendier de Croprych, Ferryng, and Yalmeton, anoine Prietz au Rov de glorie, qe de lui eueyt pyte en honour de qui devoutement dites Pater noster et Ave.' As William de Rothwelle was appointed Arch-deacon of Essex by the King, June 20, 1351, (Pat. 25, EIII, p. 2) and John de Barnet his successor, Nov 30, 1361 (v, Le Neve, p. 190) the date of this Rothwell brass therefore must be assigned to the year 1361.'

Funeral Monuments in Northamptonshire by the Rev C. H. Hartshorne, M.A. F.S.A.

Cambridge, Parker, and West Strand, London, p. 58.

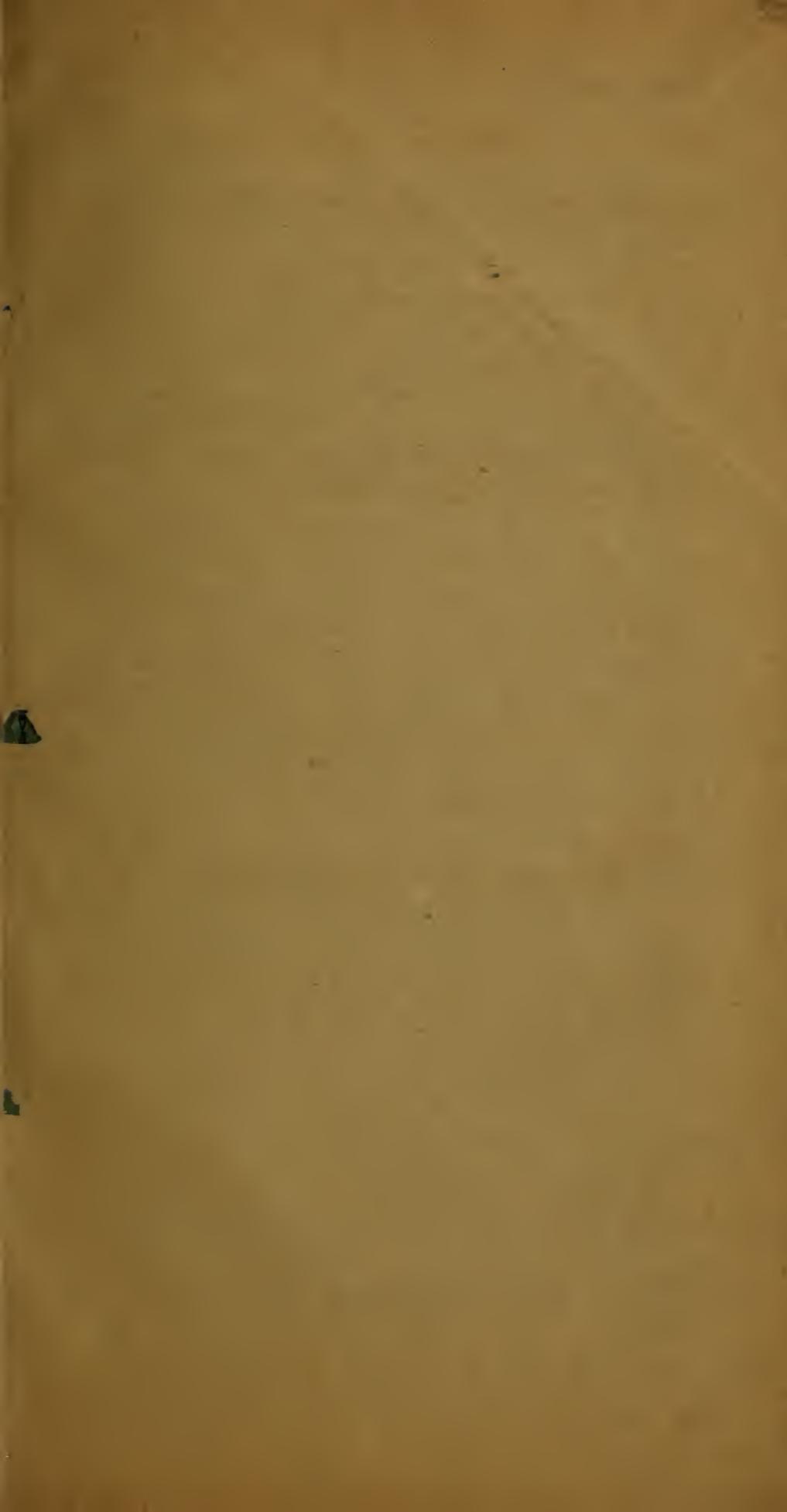
THE AUGUSTINE NUNNERY.

P. 51. and seq,

In this month of October (1849) it became necessary to take down a considerable portion of the residence of Mr. J. M. Cole known as "the Nunnery"; and which, as is mentioned in a preceding page, occupied the site of the conventional establishment, suppressed by Henry 8th. In the course of the excavations required for the foundations of the new buildings, the position of the convent burying ground was satisfactorily indi-

cated by the discovery of numerous skeletons, lying at an equal distance beneath the surface, not more than three feet in depth (probably the soil had been at some time lowered, as the original interments must have been at a greater depth) and in some instances two or more bodies occupying the same grave. It is painful to add that the remains of the good recluses were not altogether treated with that decent respect which should have dictated their removal to the parish cemetery,

End of the History of Rowell.



FEB 15 1902

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OF
ROTHWELL,

In the County of Northampton.

WITH AN
ACCOUNT OF THE BONE CAVERNS.

BY
PAUL CYPHER.

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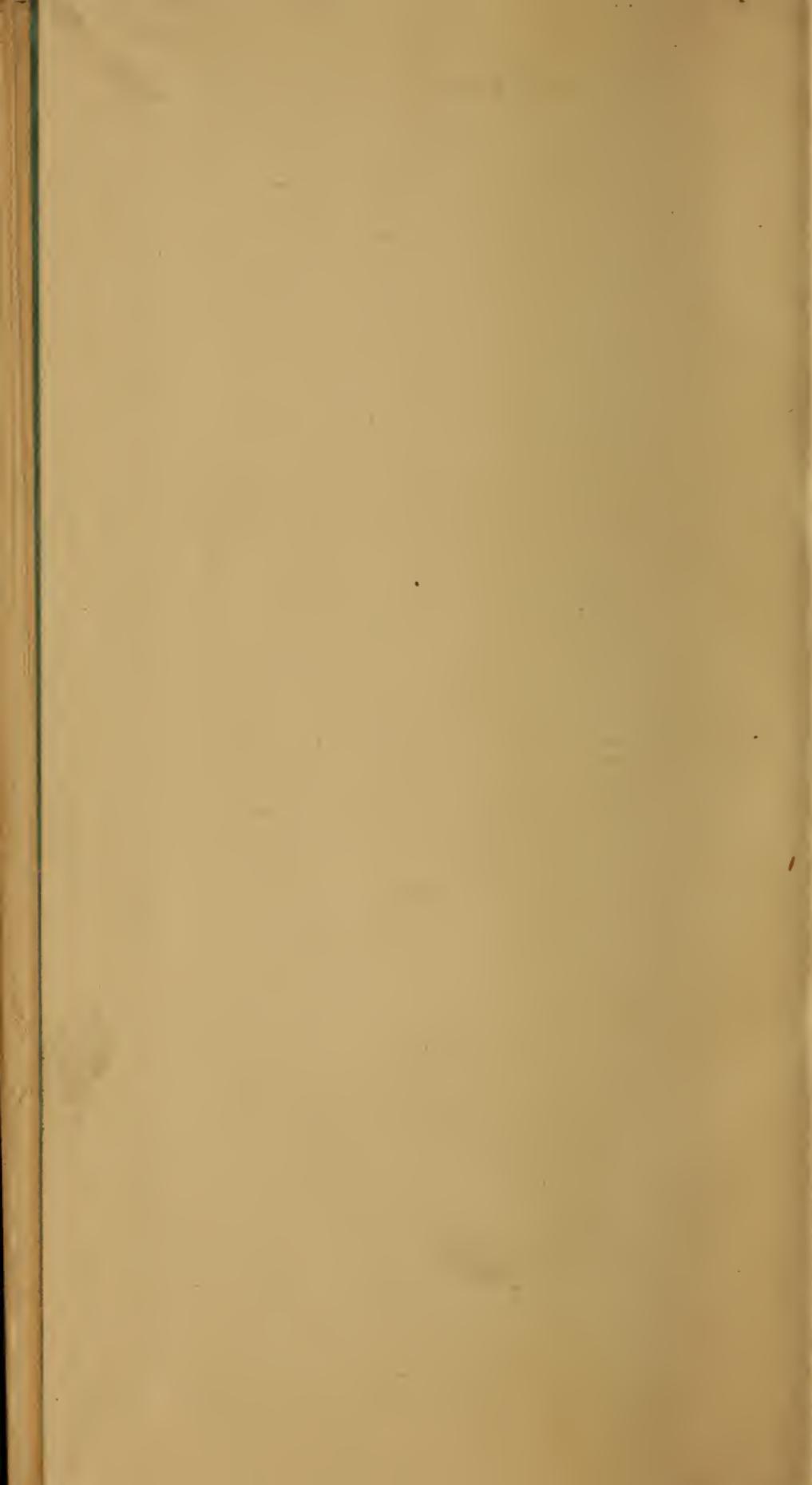
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